



BATMAN®

RIDDLER



MATT WAGNER DAVE TAYLOR
with LINDA MEDLEY

F. F. F.

BATMAN
RIDDLER
The Riddle Factory

Matt
WAGNER
WRITER

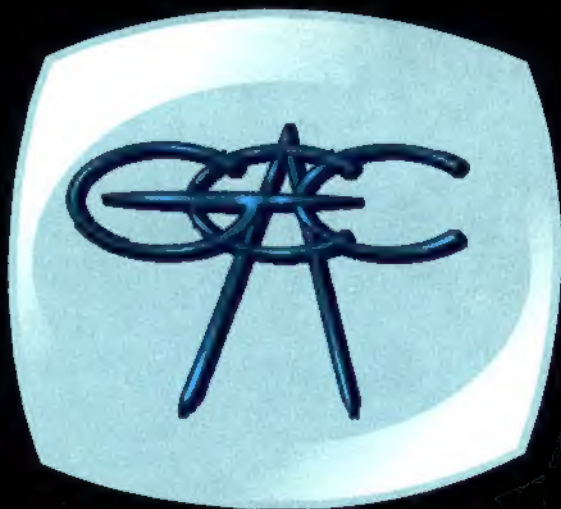
Dave
TAYLOR
ARTIST

Linda
MEDLEY
COLORIST

Bill
OAKLEY
LETTERER

BATMAN CREATED BY

Bob **KANE**



YOU ARE WATCHING GOTHAM CITY
CABLE ACCESS. A PUBLIC FORUM
FOR OPINIONS AND INFORMATION.



PUBLIC CABLE ACCESS IS HELPED
BY A GENEROUS GRANT FROM
THE WAYNE FOUNDATION.



THE WAYNE FOUNDATION...
FUNDING A BRIGHTER
TOMORROW.



TO SERVE THE NEEDS
OF TODA--ZZZZT!



ZZZ--ZZZT-- WHEN DID HE? HOW DID
HE? WHERE DID HE? WHY DID HE?
PIDDI-WA-DIDDI-WA-DOO! ALL THE
QUESTIONS YOU LONG TO ASK!!



ALL THE ANSWERS YOU HATE TO KNOW!!
YES, IT'S NEARLY THAT TIME AGAIN! THE
HOUR OF UNCERTAINTY! WELCOME,
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, TO...

"...THE RIDDLE
FACTORY!"

"AND AS THE CROWD BEGINS
TO STIR IN ANTICIPATION OF
THIS EVENING'S EVENTS,
LET'S SPEAK FOR JUST A
MINUTE TO A FEW OF OUR
GUESTS..."



"YOU, SIR! WELCOME TO THE
RIDDLE FACTORY! CARE TO
TELL US A BIT ABOUT HOW IT
FEELS TO BE HERE?"

"OUTTA MY FACE, SISTER!
I... UH, I JUST HEARD THIS
WAS A REAL EVENT. YOU
KNOW, A SHOW AN' A SCENE."



"CHANCE TO SCORE BIG, YA KNOW."

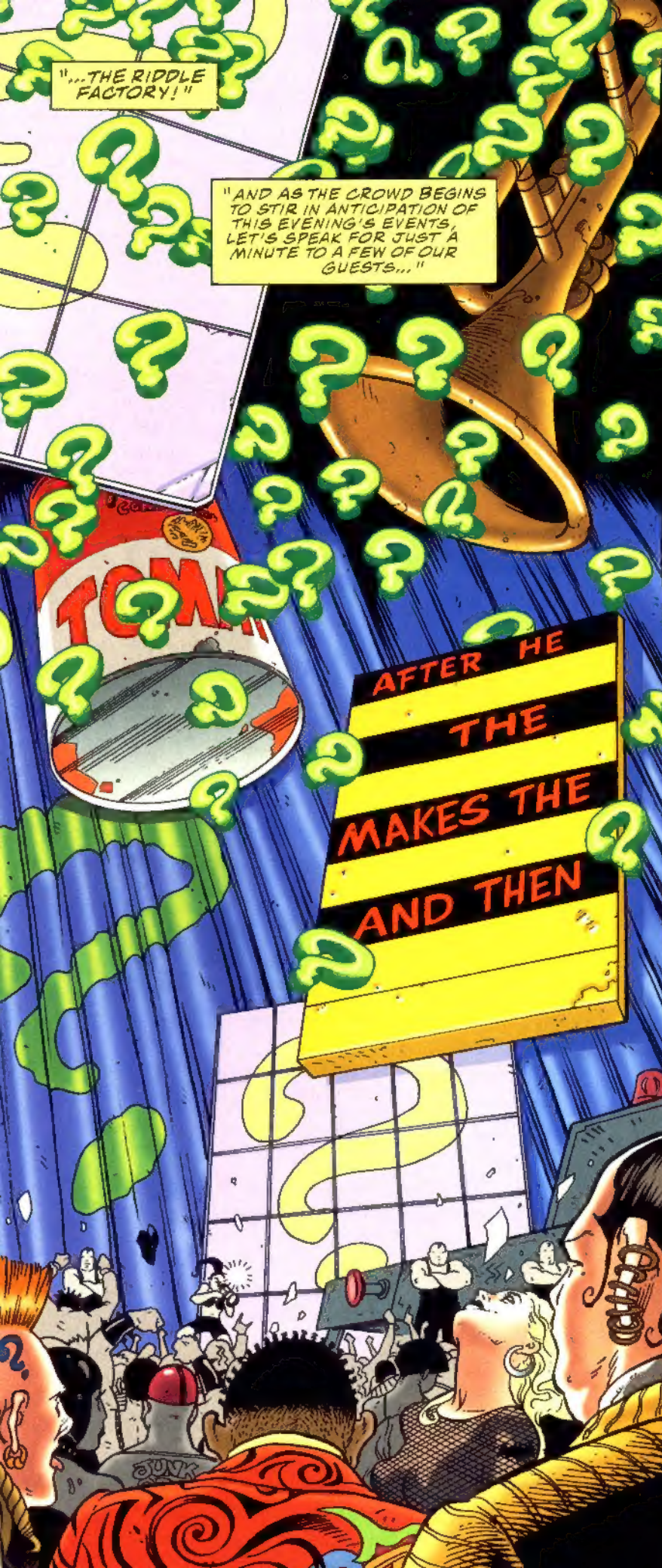
"AND YOU, MA'AM... IS THIS
YOUR FIRST TIME AT THE FACTORY?"



"HARDLY, HONEY. THIS CROWD'S
LIKE A GOLD-MINE, KNOWHUM-
SAYIN'? ALL THE SCANDAL AND
EXCITEMENT-- GETS PEOPLE
IN A HEAT."



"WELL, I HEARD ABOUT THE
LAST ONE AND THEN MY DEAL--
UH... FRIEND OF MINE TOLD ME
ABOUT TONIGHT. SOUNDS LIKE
A REAL BLAST, Y'KNOW?"





"AND HOW ABOUT YOU,
SIR? SIR? SIR?..."
OH, WELL..."



"MY MISTRESS
BROUGHT ME. I HOPE
TO BE CHOSEN AS A
CONTESTANT. I'M
NOT AFRAID."



"THIS SCENE AIN'T COMPLETE
WITHOUT SOME ATTITUDE,
BABY. I GOT WHATEVER
OPINION YOU MAY NEED. ASK
FOR ORSON, BABY. ASK
FOR ORSON."



"LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, WE'RE
NOW ONLY MOMENTS FROM
MIDNIGHT... THE HOUR OF
UNCERTAINTY.

"THE TIME WHEN ALL STANDS
REVEALED, NAKED IN THE FACE
OF COMPLEXITY. LADIES AND
GENTLEMEN, THE RIDDLE FAC-
TORY IS PROUD TO PRESENT..."



"... 'RIDDLE ME THIS!'
WITH YOUR HOST... THE MAN
OF QUESTIONS... OF
INTRIGUE AND STYLE.

"THE LEAN, MEAN,
GREEN MACHINE!"



"THE RIDDLER!"



"GOOD EVENING, FOLKS!
OR IS IT GOOD MORNING?"

"WHY, IT USED TO BE
THAT MIDNIGHT WAS A
LATE TIME FOR FOLKS
TO STAY AWAKE UNTIL--
SOME SPECIAL EVENT,
LIKE A BIRTHDAY OR
SUCH!"



THERE JUST
SEEMS NO END TO
HOW FAR PEOPLE
WILL GO TO HAVE A
GOOD TIME!

TODAY, MIDNIGHT
IS ONLY THE HOUR WHEN
WE HERE AT THE RIDDLE
FACTORY ARE JUST GET-
TING STARTED! THE HOUR
WHEN PROPER FOLKS
ARE TUCKED INTO THEIR
CRADLES AND COFFINS.

A.M., P.M. ... GOOD
OR BAD, ALIVE OR
DEAD. PERSONALLY, I
NEVER COULD TELL
THE DIFFERENCE. BUT
THEN, PERSONALLY...

"I NEVER
DID REALLY
CARE!"



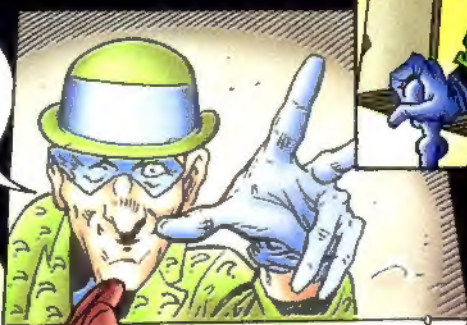
BUT I'M
NOT HERE
TO CARE, NOW
AM I?

NO, I AM HERE TO DASH
AT THE TOWERS OF FALSE-
HOODS, MY FRIENDS! I AM
HERE TO LAY BARE WHAT OUR
MOST FAMOUS WOULD HAR-
BOR AND WITHHOLD!



THE SEETHING,
SLUDGE-HEAVY
SOUL-PITS OF
THE STARS!

I'M HERE
TO KICK SOME
BUTT OFF THE
CELEBRITY
BAND-
WAGON!



RIDDLE ME THIS:
WHEN IS A SECRET
SUDDENLY A
RUMOUR? WHEN IS A
RUMOUR SUDDENLY
FACT?

ANSWER TO
BOTH: WHEN THE
PROPER QUESTION
IS FINALLY
ASKED.



ONCE
THE PERFECT
RIDDLE IS
POSED.

FOR THE MORE WE KNOW, THE MORE WE QUESTION. WHERE DOES IT END, MY FRIENDS?

I SAY, WHY SHOULD IT END?

AND THEN

IN THE FUTURE, I THINK PEOPLE WILL HAVE QUESTIONS INSTEAD OF NAMES. RIDDLES INSTEAD OF CREDIT CARDS.

ASK CLEVERLY, LIVE INCREDIBLY!

YOU DIDN'T COME HERE FOR ANSWERS TONIGHT! YOU CAME HERE FOR QUESTIONS!

AND WHO IS THE SUBJECT OF THIS EVENING'S CLEVER QUESTIONING?

HE'S NOT ONLY RICH, HE'S OBNOXIOUS! THE SORT OF GUY YOU WANT TO TOTALLY SHAVE AND THEN BEAT WITH A STICK...

...YOUR FRIEND AND MINE, REAL-ESTATE MOGUL--HAROLD TROJAN!

AND SO, RIDDLE ME THIS--

--WHEN IS A BILLIONAIRE'S WIFE NOT WHAT SHE SEEMS?

BEFORE WE'RE DONE THIS EVENING, ALL WILL STAND REVEALED--HERE!--ON THE BIG BOARD.

AND THEN YOU, MY FRIENDS, WILL BE ONE-UP ON "THE HAROLD"! HOO! HEE-HEE-HUNH-HOO-HOO! HIGHER EVEN THAN THE "TROJAN TOWER!"

HOO! HOO-HOO-HOO-HEEEEE!

BUT, NOW...

...WHO'S GOING TO BE OUR FIRST CONTESTANT HERE ON "RIDDLE ME THIS?"



YOU, SIR! YOU LOOK LIKE THE RISK-TAKING TYPE! C'MON UP SO WE CAN GET THIS PARTY ROLLING!

REALLY? YEAH. AWESOME!



YOU FOLKS KNOW HOW THIS WORKS... EACH OF OUR CONTESTANTS IS GIVEN A RIDDLE BY YOUR HOST. THE ANSWERS THEN GO ONTO THE BIG BOARD.

THE RESULTS... SHOULD BE QUITE REVEALING! HOO-HOO-HOO-HHEEEEE!



BUT, OF COURSE, SECRETS ARE PRECIOUS, AND NOT EASILY WON. AND SO, FOR THE FIRST OF THIS EVENING'S CHALLENGERS, WE PRESENT A MOST DELICIOUS DIVERSION TO THE MENTAL FACULTIES.



A WRONG ANSWER WINS A DATE WITH RABID RACCOON!

HEY, MAN...!



HEY, MAN, THAT THING'S NOT REALLY RABID, IS IT?! NOBODY SAID ANYTHING ABOUT THIS! LET ME OUT!



HEY! YEOWW!! AGHH--



SILENCE, SEEKER! THERE IS NO REVELATION FREE OF RISK! YOU CAME TO THIS INQUEST OF YOUR OWN ACCORD!

SO RIDDLE ME THIS: WHEN IS A STAND-UP TOMATO LIKE THE EDGE OF A KNIFE?

UH... UHM... I DON'T-- OH, MAN! ...UH...



ANSWER!

UH... W-WHEN IT ...WAIT! I GOT IT! WHEN IT "CUTS-UP"?





YES!

VERY CLEVER, MY FRIEND. NOW HERE'S A LOVELY LASS WITH SOME PRIZES FOR OUR FIRST WINNER.

OH, WOW. C-COOL!

SO NOW, WHO'LL BE OUR NEXT CONTESTANT?

HOW DOES A NEW DRIVER SMELL A FIB?



ummm... WITH A DE-FIBULATOR? I DUNNO--



WRONG! BOY... HOO-HOO! LET'S SEE HIM TRY AND GET THOSE STAINS OUT, FOLKS!

THAT'S WHAT I CALL A "SOUPEY SAILOR"! HOO-HOO-HEEE!



UM... WITH HIS LIE-SENSE?

RIGHT!



WHAT DID SHAKESPEARE CALL HIS WALLET?

UHH... WHAT'S IT CALLED? ROMEO?

OH DEAR. ANOTHER DUBIOUS GUEST. AND I THOUGHT WE HAD SUCH A FINE AUDIENCE TONIGHT!



SOMEONE, PROVE MY THEOREM. OH, PLEASE...



AND SO, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, "WHEN SA BILLIONAIRE'S WIFE OVER THE HILL?"

AFTER HE... "CUTS UP THE LICENSE, MAKES THE WILL FOLD AND THEN DUMPS HER IN PUBLIC!"

AFTER HE CUTS THE LIE SENSE MAKES THE WILL FOLD AND THEN DUMPS HER IN PUBLIC

UH-OH!

WELL, I SUPPOSE IT'S TRUE! THAT SURE DOESN'T LOOK LIKE MRS. T! AFTER ALL, WHAT DOES A MAN WHO HAS EVERYTHING BUY FOR HIMSELF?

AS PROMISED, ONE AND ALL, THE SECRET'S IN THE PHRASING OF THE SEARCH! JOIN US NEXT WEEK, SAME TIME, SAME STATION AS THE RIDDLE FACTORY TAKES AIM AT THE ARTS!

FROM ALL OF US HERE AT THE FACTORY...

A NEW EVERYTHING! HOO! HOO-HOO! HEEEEEE!

...ADIEU!



THAT'S IT.

THAT'S THE SECOND BROADCAST HE'S MADE. WE DON'T HAVE A COPY OF THE FIRST. HIS TARGET THAT TIME WAS THE POP SINGER, LADY GODIVA.

REVEALED THAT SHE USED TO, IN FACT, BE A HE. AND THAT IN TURN LED TO... WELL, I'M SURE YOU SAW A BIT OF THAT MEDIA CIRCL'S LAST WEEK

KLIK

AS YOU KNOW, THREE DAYS AGO, LADY GODIVA LEAPT TO HER DEATH FROM THE BALCONY OF HER PENTHOUSE.

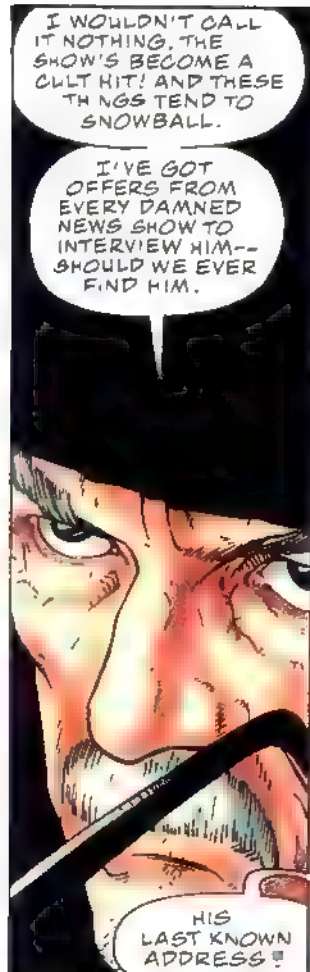
EACH TIME, WE'VE FOUND THE BROADCAST LOCATION AFTER THE FACT. ABANDONED WAREHOUSES, BOTH

EVEN IF WE DO FIND WHERE THE NEXT ONE'S BEING HELD, SO WHAT?

HE'S REALLY ONLY BREAKING SOME MINOR FCC REGULATIONS. THERE'S NO LAW AGAINST THE SORT OF MUD-SLINGING HE'S PULLING OFF.

BUT THERE'S GOT TO BE MORE TO IT THAN THAT. THE RIDDLER'S OBSESSIVE ABOUT HIS DANGEROUS PUZZLES.

HE WOULDN'T GO TO ALL THIS TROUBLE OVER NOTHING.



I WOULDN'T CALL IT NOTHING. THE SHOW'S BECOME A CULT HIT! AND THESE THINGS TEND TO SNOWBALL.

I'VE GOT OFFERS FROM EVERY DAMNED NEWS SHOW TO INTERVIEW HIM-- SHOULD WE EVER FIND HIM.

HIS LAST KNOWN ADDRESS!



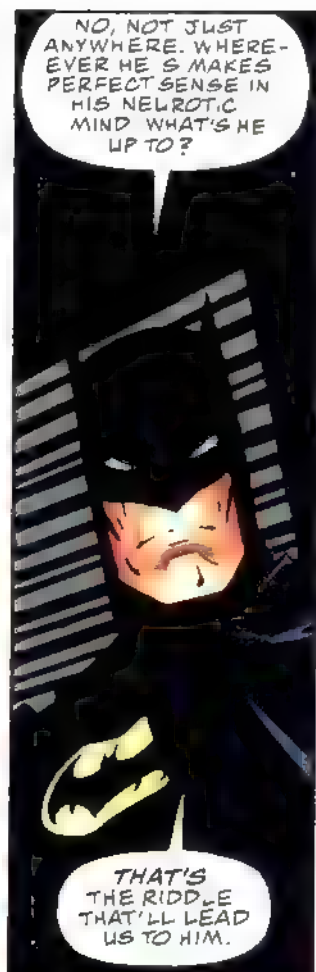
WE CHECKED. HE LEFT MONTHS AGO. NEVER CONTACTED HIS PAROLE OFFICER.

HE HAD A JOB FOR A WHILE AT THE FINGER JUNKYARD ON THE LOWER EAST SIDE. HE SEEMS TO HAVE STOLEN MOST OF HIS GIANT PROPS FROM THERE



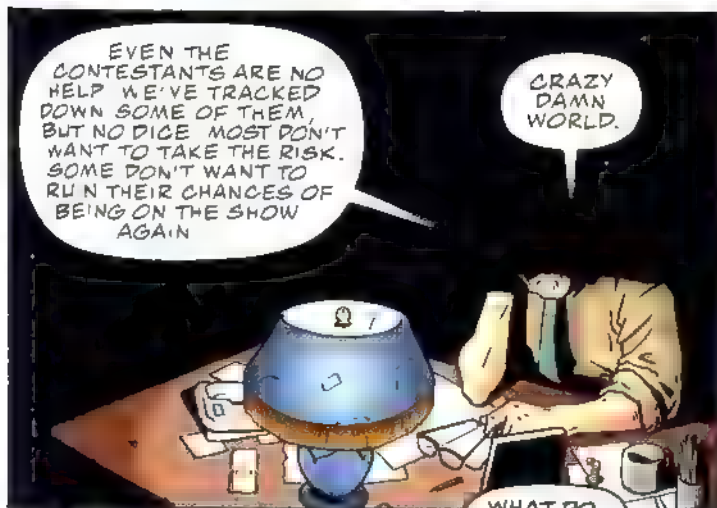
HAD A TALENT FOR COMING UP WITH FAKE I.D.

HE COULD BE HOLED UP ANYWHERE



NO, NOT JUST ANYWHERE. WHEREVER HE'S MAKES PERFECT SENSE IN HIS NEUROTIC MIND. WHAT'S HE UP TO?

THAT'S THE RIDDLE THAT'LL LEAD US TO HIM.



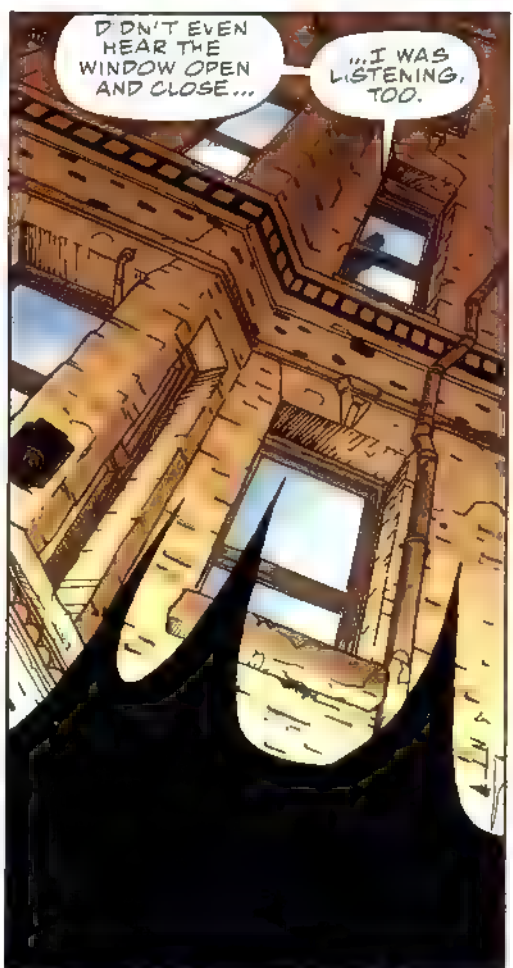
EVEN THE CONTESTANTS ARE NO HELP. WE'VE TRACKED DOWN SOME OF THEM, BUT NO DICE. MOST DON'T WANT TO TAKE THE RISK. SOME DON'T WANT TO RUN THEIR CHANCES OF BEING ON THE SHOW AGAIN.

CRAZY DAMN WORLD.

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF--

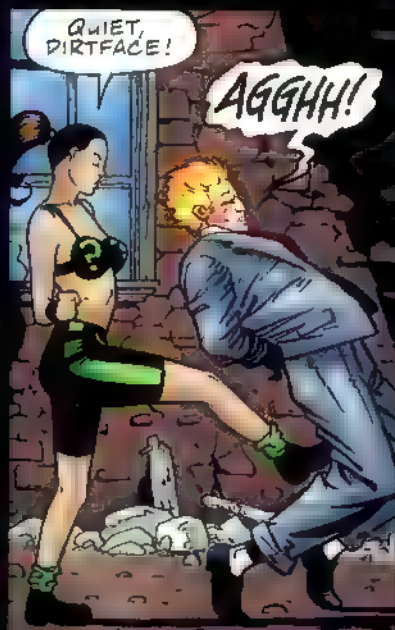


HUH



I DIDN'T EVEN HEAR THE WINDOW OPEN AND CLOSE...

...I WAS LISTENING, TOO.



QUIET, DIRTFACE!

AGGHH!

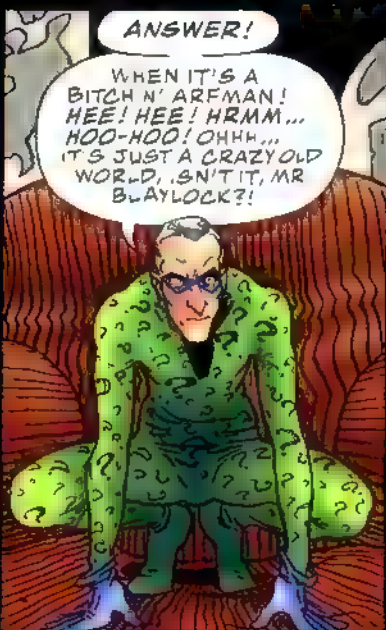
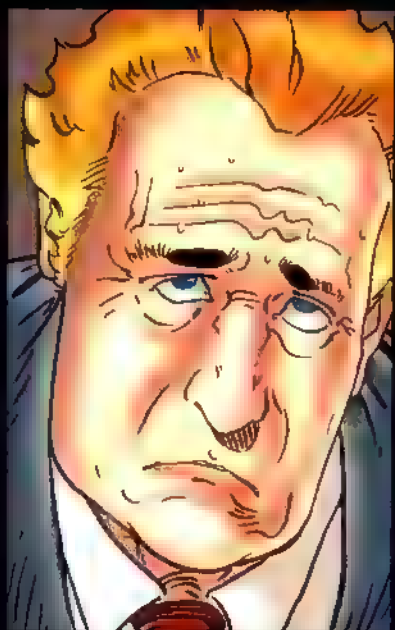


REMEMBER THE PHOTOS. BEHAVE AND OBEY

Y-YES... I WILL! YES, MA'AM!



MY, MY, MY... IT'S A... VISITOR, I SUPPOSE YOU'D CALL IT. TELL ME, LADIES, WHEN IS A BEATEN DOG LIKE AN EXPENSIVE ITALIAN SUIT?



ANSWER!

WHEN IT'S A BITCH N' ARFMAN! HEE! HEE! HRMM... HOO-HOO! OHHH... IT'S JUST A CRAZY OLD WORLD, SN'T IT, MR BLAYLOCK?!

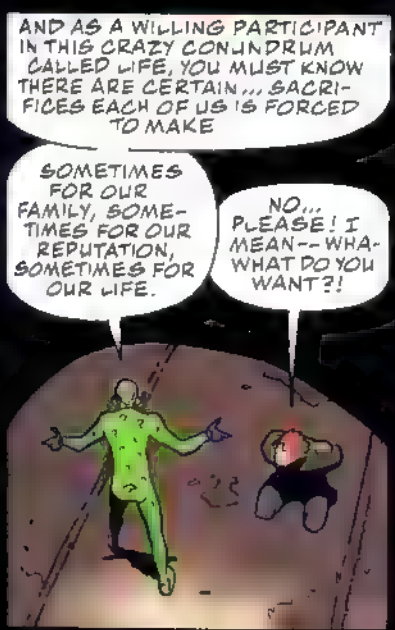


THAT'S DIRTFACE!

EXCUSE ME... A CRAZY OLD WORLD, SN'T IT, MR DIRTFACE?! I THINK YOU'LL AGREE ..

TELL ME, WAS IT HARD BREAKING HIM?

NO, HE WAS EASY.



AND AS A WILLING PARTICIPANT IN THIS CRAZY CONJUNDRUM CALLED LIFE, YOU MUST KNOW THERE ARE CERTAIN... SACRIFICES EACH OF US IS FORCED TO MAKE

SOMETIMES FOR OUR FAMILY, SOMETIMES FOR OUR REPUTATION, SOMETIMES FOR OUR LIFE.

NO... PLEASE! I MEAN-- WHA-- WHAT DO YOU WANT?!



WOO! HOO-HOO! HEE! CAREFUL WITH THOSE BIG QUESTIONS, PARDNER! THEY CAN GET A BOY IN TROUBLE!

BUT, FOR RIGHT NOW, I'LL SHOW SOME RESTRAINT AND ANSWER...



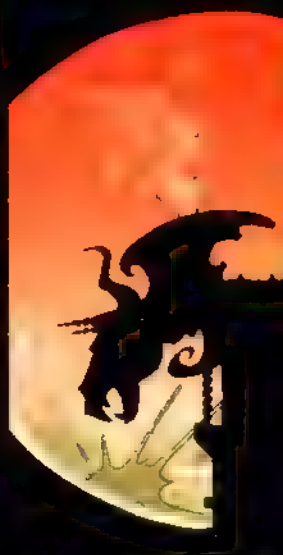
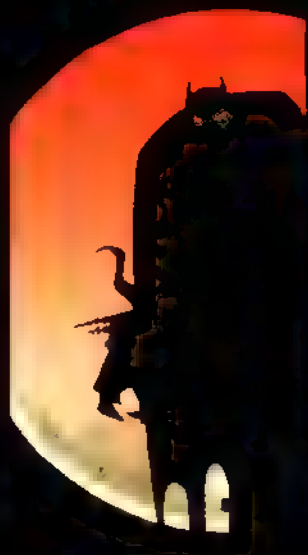
...YOU HAVE A THEATER WE'D LIKE TO BOOK FOR NEXT WEEKEND!

WHAT DOES THE
RIDDLER HOPE
TO GAIN FROM
ALL THIS?

BUT WHAT IS THE
RIDDLE? WHERE'S
THE CONNECTION?

ARE THE TARGETS
DELIBERATE
OR RANDOM?

OTHER THAN THE
FACT THEY WERE
BOTH FAMOUS
AND RICH.



THE TELEVISION
SHOWS ARE A
GARISH DECLARA-
TION OF SOME
SORT--CLUES IN
A PUZZLE

SO FAR, THE POLICE
HAVE TURNED UP
NOTHING TO CON-
NECT LADY GODIVA
WITH HAROLD
TROJAN



SECRETS. SECRETS.
SECRETS. THE
RIDDLER HAS
ALWAYS PLAYED
SUCH A TWISTED
GAME.



HIS SCHEMINGS
BRING SUCH MISERY
AND YET, HE
ALWAYS SEEMS SO
LITTERLY BORED BY
THE CONSEQUENCES



AND WHO WILL
BECOME HIS
NEXT VICTIM?

WHAT COULD
HAVE BRED
SUCH A NASTY
LITTLE MIND?



YES, I'M SURE
WE'LL LET YOU KNOW
IF ANYONE ELSE
BIDS ON THAT
PIECE.



YES, PLEASE--
PLEASE DO! WE
REALLY LOVE
THE PIECE!

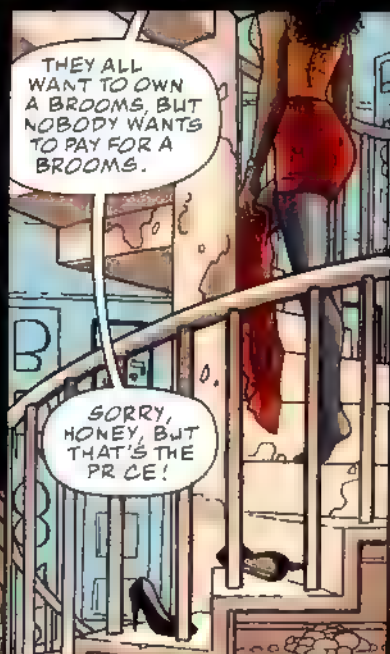
JEFF BROOMS
IS OUR
FAVORITE
ARTIST! VERY
PROVOCATIVE!

I'M SURE
NOW, GOOD
NIGHT!



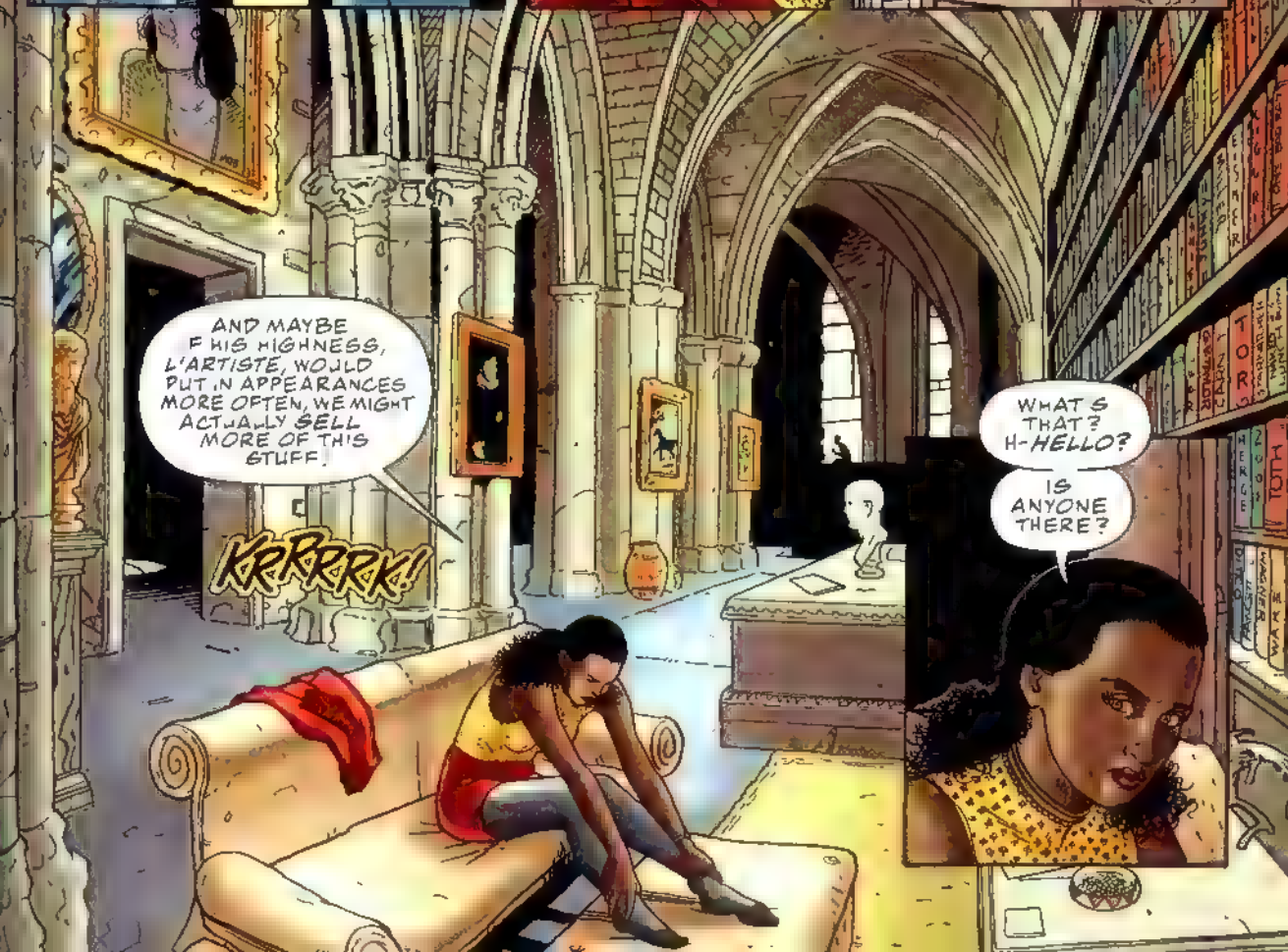
tsk! tsk!
FINALLY...
WE'RE
CLOSED!

SLAM!



THEY ALL
WANT TO OWN
A BROOMS, BUT
NOBODY WANTS
TO PAY FOR A
BROOMS.

SORRY,
HONEY, BUT
THAT'S THE
PRICE!



AND MAYBE
F HIS HIGHNESS,
L'ARTISTE, WOULD
PUT IN APPEARANCES
MORE OFTEN, WE MIGHT
ACTUALLY SELL
MORE OF THIS
STUFF.

KRRRRK!

WHAT'S
THAT?
H-HELLO?

IS
ANYONE
THERE?

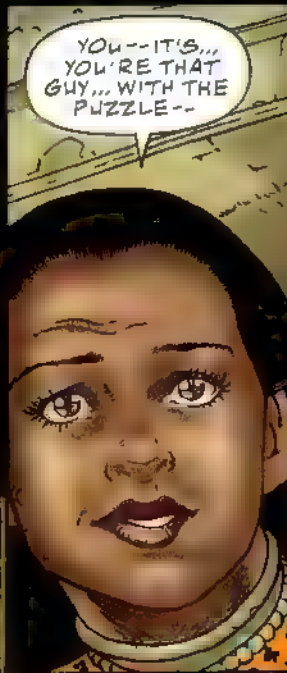


HELLOOOO...
IS ANYONE
THERE?

WELL, NOW,
THAT ALL
DEPENDS...



...ON
WHAT YOU
MEAN BY JUST
ANYONE!



YOU--IT'S...
YOU'RE THAT
GUY... WITH THE
PUZZLE--

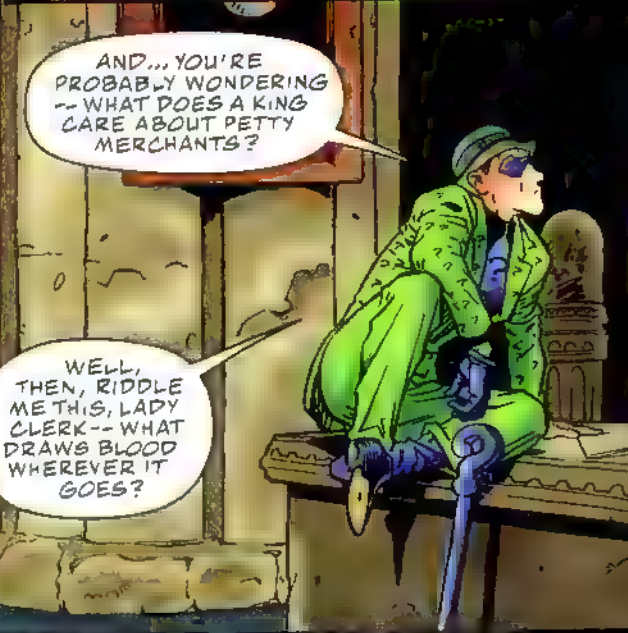


NOT PUZZLER!
RIDDLER! I'M
THE KING OF KEEN-
WITTED CONUN-
DRUMS!

PUZZLES
ARE ONLY
A S DE-
LINE.



I--YES...
BUT WHAT DO
YOU WANT W TH
ME? I--



AND... YOU'RE
PROBABLY WONDERING
-- WHAT DOES A KING
CARE ABOUT PETTY
MERCHANTS?

WELL,
THEN, RIDDLE
ME THIS, LADY
CLERK-- WHAT
DRAWS BLOOD
WHEREVER IT
GOES?



ANSWER!

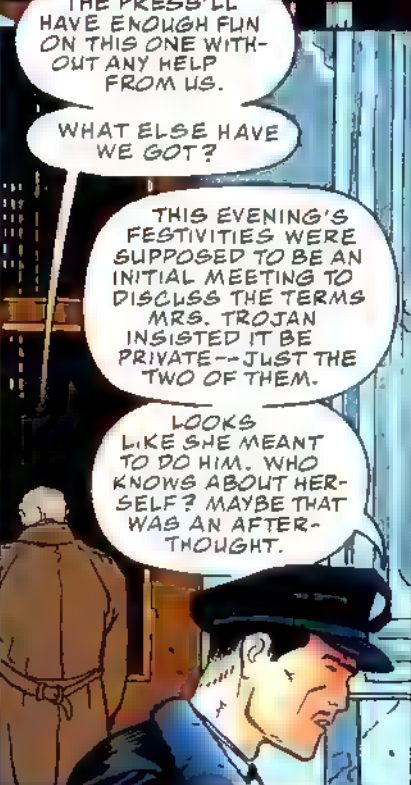
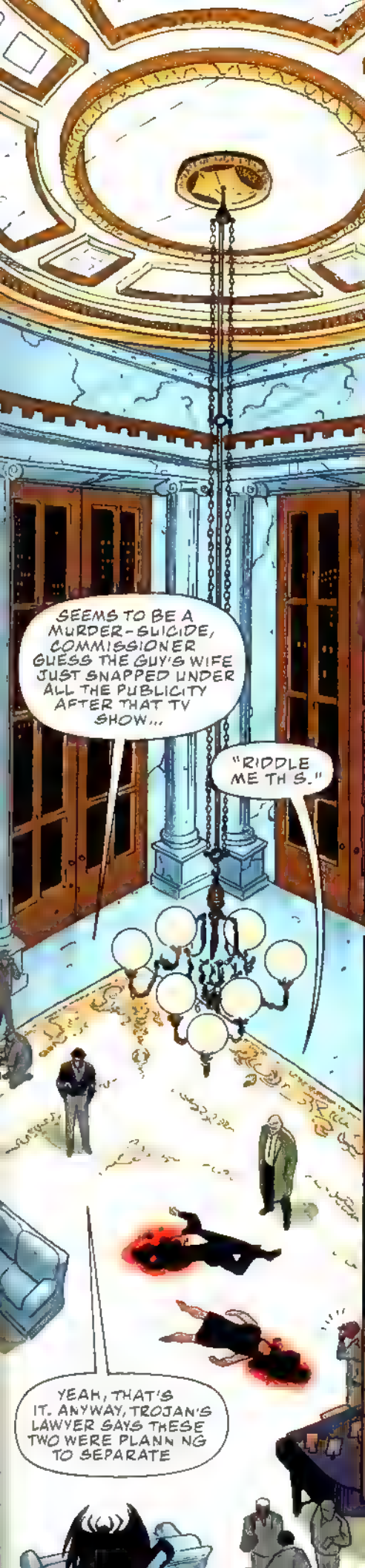
AN ARTIST
WITH HIS HANDS
CHOPPED
OFF!!



BECAUSE, YOU
SEE, WHETHER HE
KNOWS IT OR NOT, YOUR
LITTLE STAR ARTISTE
S GOING TO BE A GUEST
ON MY SHOW TH'S WEEK!
HOO! HOO-HEE!



SO, DARLING...
CAN WE TALK?



SEEMS TO BE A MURDER-SUICIDE, COMMISSIONER. GUESS THE GUY'S WIFE JUST SNAPPED UNDER ALL THE PUBLICITY AFTER THAT TV SHOW...

"RIDDLE ME TH'S."

HE'S SURE ABOUT THAT?

OH, YEAH. SAYS THE WIFE HAD MOVED INTO A DIFFERENT UNIT DOWNSTAIRS--THIRTIETH FLOOR

SOME SEPARATION

NO KIDDIN'! RICH PEOPLE ARE GEEKED.

EASY THERE, SERGEANT. THESE ARE TWO OF GOTHAM'S MOST INFLUENTIAL CITIZENS.

WERE.

MAYBE. LET'S SEE WHERE THE GUN'S FROM. DID SHE ALREADY OWN IT OR DID SHE BUY IT SPECIAL?

ALSO, I WANT BOTH APARTMENTS ENTIRELY DUSTED FOR PRINTS. JUST IN CASE.

I'M GOING TO GET SOME AIR.

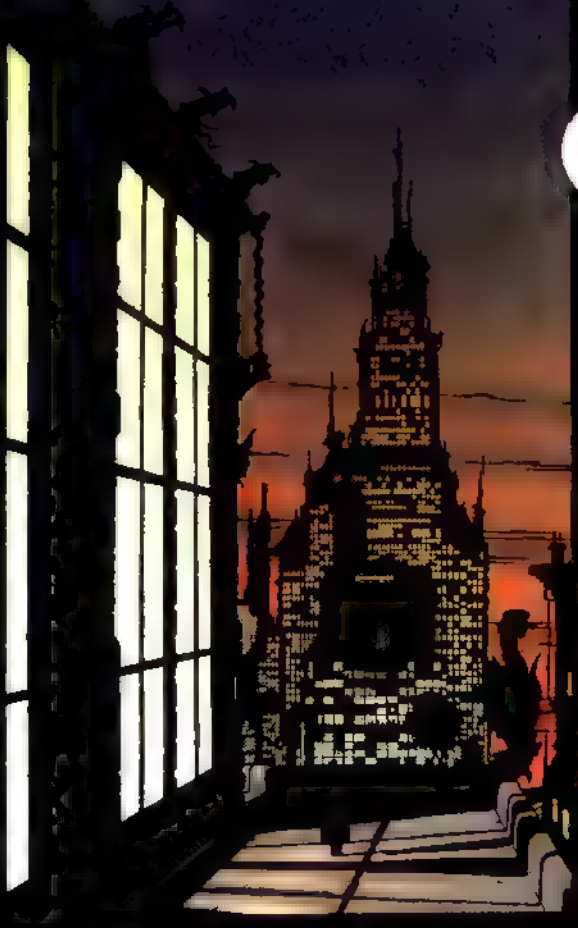
THE PRESS'LL HAVE ENOUGH FUN ON THIS ONE WITHOUT ANY HELP FROM US.

WHAT ELSE HAVE WE GOT?

THIS EVENING'S FESTIVITIES WERE SUPPOSED TO BE AN INITIAL MEETING TO DISCUSS THE TERMS MRS. TROJAN INSISTED IT BE PRIVATE--JUST THE TWO OF THEM.

LOOKS LIKE SHE MEANT TO DO HIM. WHO KNOWS ABOUT HERSELF? MAYBE THAT WAS AN AFTER-THOUGHT.

YEAH, THAT'S IT. ANYWAY, TROJAN'S LAWYER SAYS THESE TWO WERE PLANNING TO SEPARATE



WHAT IS DANGEROUS CARELESS AND GREEN?

YEAH, THE RIDDLER THE MAYOR'S GOING TO HAVE A FIT OVER THIS. THAT'S HAROLD TROJAN IN THERE, FOR GOD'S SAKE!



I KNOW. AND YOU'VE GOT NO REAL CULPRIT-- OTHER THAN THE PUBLIC'S TASTE FOR SCANDAL.

SECRETS ARE SELDOM SAFE IN THIS WORLD, THOUGH. AND VILLAINS ARE SELDOM AS COLORFUL AS ED N GMA.

I KNOW THAT. AND TROJAN WAS RUNNING AROUND ON HIS WIFE. AND THE RIDDLER DIDN'T REALLY PULL THAT TRIGGER IN THERE, BUT I'VE STILL GOT TO DEAL WITH A CARPET FULL OF VERY WEALTHY BLOOD.

THAT'S THE POINT, JIM. IT IS A FARCE. A DANGEROUS ONE, BUT STILL A RUSE. IF YOU BUST HIM NOW, YOU'RE ONLY JUMPING THE GUN ON HIS REAL PLANS



I'VE GOT TO FIND HIM AND SHUT DOWN THIS WHOLE FARCE!



LET THIS WEEK'S SHOW RUN UNINTERRUPTED. BECAUSE, WHETHER HE LIKES IT OR NOT...

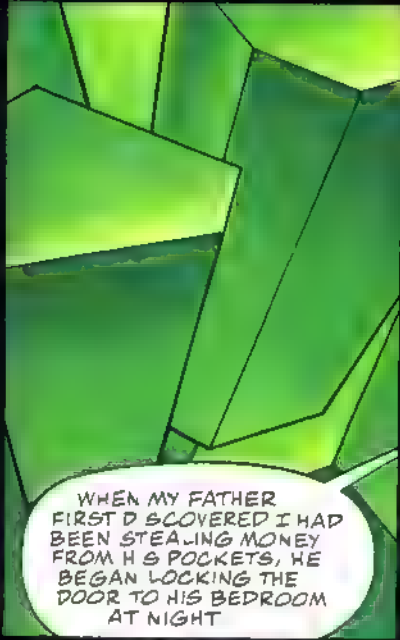
"THIS TIME, THE RIDDLER'S GOING TO HAVE AN EXTRA GUEST IN HIS AUDIENCE."



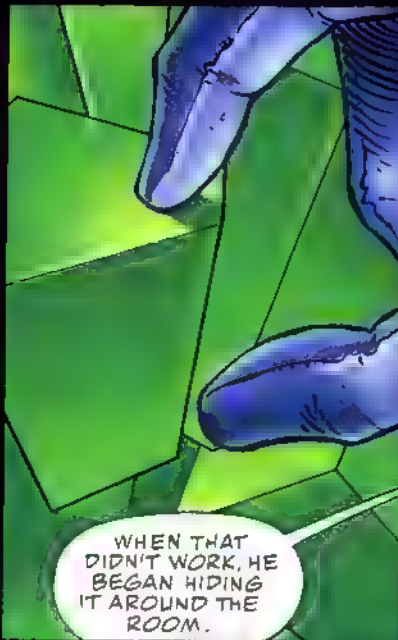
HE MIGHT EVEN WANT TO BE ARRESTED MAYBE HE'S COUNTING ON THAT.



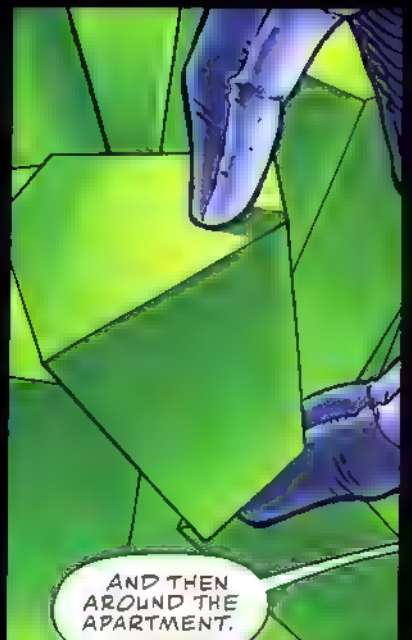
WE'LL SEE



WHEN MY FATHER FIRST D SCOVERED I HAD BEEN STEALING MONEY FROM H S POCKETS, HE BEGAN LOCKING THE DOOR TO HIS BEDROOM AT NIGHT



WHEN THAT DIDN'T WORK, HE BEGAN HIDING IT AROUND THE ROOM.



AND THEN AROUND THE APARTMENT.



THEN IN THE ALLEY THEN THE GARBAGE...



FINALLY, HE EVEN H D SOME CASH N THE SEWER SAID HE WANTED TO SEE EXACTLY HOW FAR I WOULD GO.



SAID IF I WAS GOING TO BE SUCH A STUBBORN LITTLE THIEF...



... AT LEAST I WAS GOING TO HAVE TO EARN IT

WELL, I JUST LOVE TO ADMIT THAT, NO MATTER WHERE HE PLANTED HIS CLEVER LITTLE TRAPS...



...SOMEHOW...

...I...

...ALWAYS...



... MANAGED TO MAKE THEM TURN GREEN!

AAAND... I REALLY
THINK TH'S WEEK'S
SHOW WILL BE OUR
WILDEST ONE
YET!

AND
I--
EH?!

POLICE HAVE
CONFIRMED THE
DEATHS OF HAROLD
AND REGINA TROJAN
TO BE A MURDER-
SUICIDE...

HEY!

JUST
WHAT THE
HELL IS
GOING ON
HERE?!

...THIS TRAGIC
EVENT IS
RUMORED TO
HAVE BEEN
MOTIVATED BY A
PIRATE TV SHOW
KNOWN AS
"RIDDLE ME
THIS."

I WAS TALKING
OVER THERE!!

"RIDDLE ME THIS"
IS APPARENTLY A
GOSSIP-GAME SHOW
STAGED BY A CONVICTED
FELON KNOWN AS
THE RIDDLER.

BUT WE'RE
WATCHIN'
YOUR PRESS,
RID.

THIS...
IS NOT MY
PRESS!!

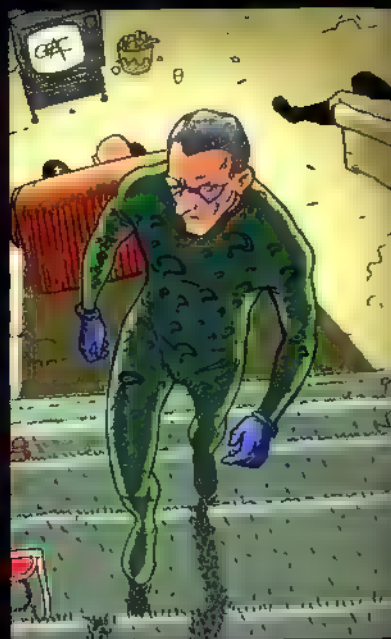
THESE
ARE
ONLY
MY--

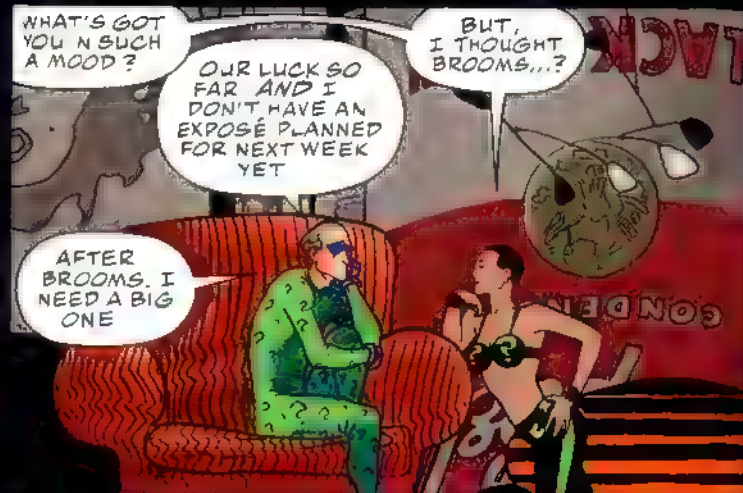
--PREVIEWS!

AWW, C'MON, SIR...
THIS IS OUR VIDEO
BREAK! Y'GOTTA LET
US WATCH SOMETHING!

HOW ABOUT
A RE-RUN OF LAST
WEEK'S SHOW AT
LEAST? THAT'S A
GOOD SHOW!

OHhh...
ALRIGHT! HERE
Y'GO... LIVE IT
UP!





WHAT'S GOT YOU IN SUCH A MOOD?

OUR LUCK SO FAR AND I DON'T HAVE AN EXPOSE PLANNED FOR NEXT WEEK YET

BUT, I THOUGHT BROOMS...?

AFTER BROOMS. I NEED A BIG ONE



THAT TROJAN THING WAS ALRIGHT, BUT BROOMS... WELL, ARTISTS THRIVE ON SCANDAL.

HE'LL PROBABLY END UP EVEN MORE FAMOUS THAN WHEN WE BEGAN!



WE'LL FIND WHAT WE'RE AFTER. NO QUESTION

YES... BUT I NEED A REAL CHERRY, SOMETHING--

--HUH?



OH, MY MY MY... ASK AND YE SHALL RECEIVE!

HOO! HOO! HEE-HEE-HOO! HRMMMM!



YOU SURE YOU FELLAS DON'T WANT TO GO TO A PARTY?



THERE'S A REAL FUN PARTY TONIGHT WHERE A GROUP OF HANDSOME YOUNG MEN SUCH AS YOURSELF MIGHT FIND GENEROUS REWARDS

YOU MIGHT'VE HEARD TELL OF THIS PARTY ON TV--

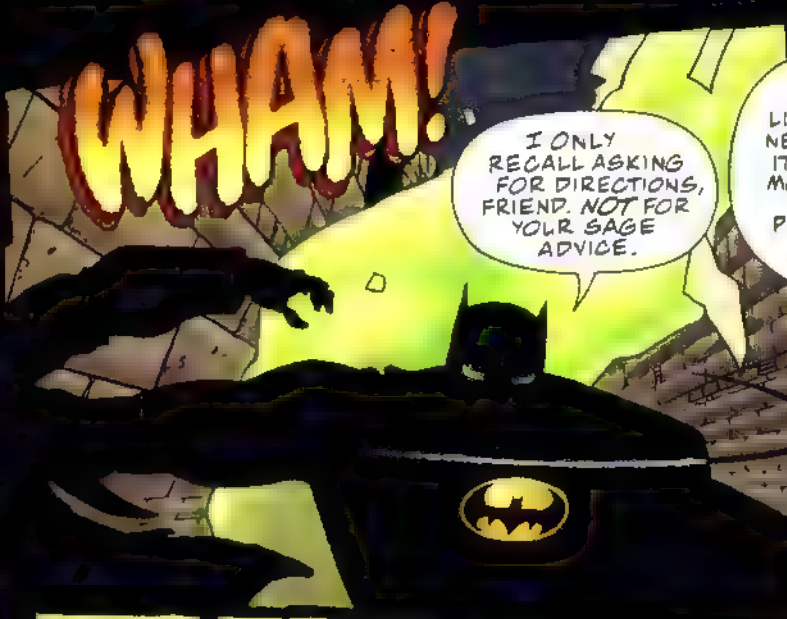


--UNGH!



SOUNDS LIKE YOU KNOW WHERE THE RIDDLE FACTORY IS TOMORROW NIGHT, FRIEND. HOW ABOUT SHARING THE INVITATION?

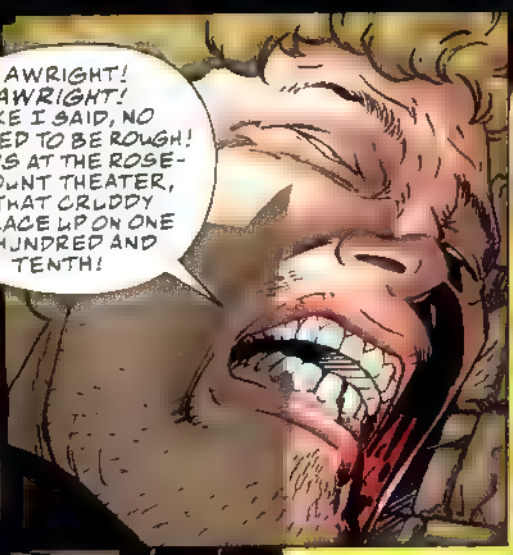
WHOA-- HEY! SURE, GOOD BUDDY! NO PROBLEM! NO NEED TO BE SO ROUGH! I COULD'VE FIXED YA UP RIGHT HERE! YOU DON'T NEED TO GO TO NO R.D.D--



WHAM!

I ONLY RECALL ASKING FOR DIRECTIONS, FRIEND. NOT FOR YOUR SAGE ADVICE.

AWRIGHT! AWRIGHT! LIKE I SAID, NO NEED TO BE ROUGH! IT'S AT THE ROSE-MOUNT THEATER, THAT CRUDDY PLACE UP ON ONE HUNDRED AND TENTH!



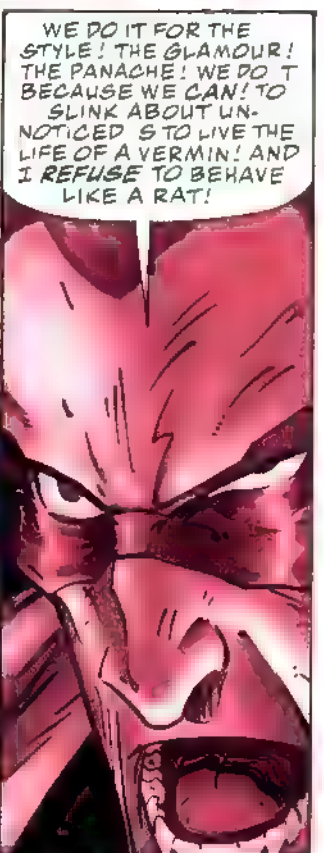
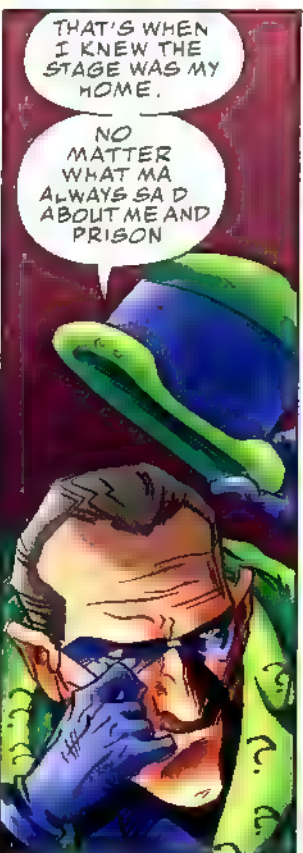
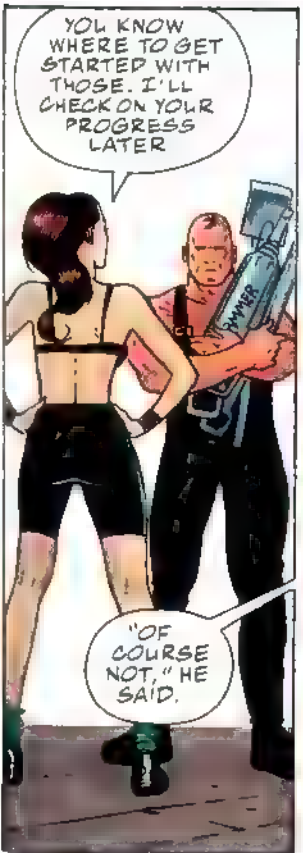
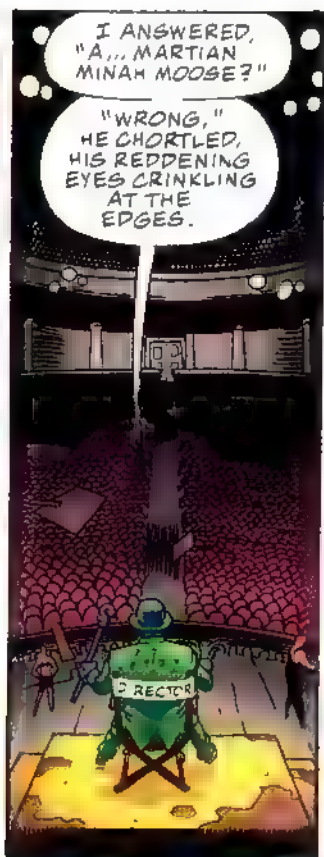
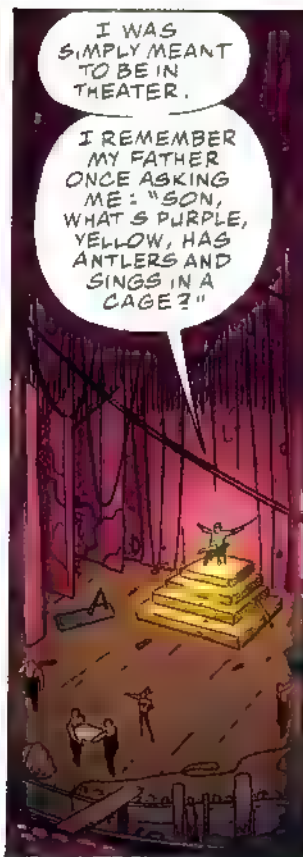
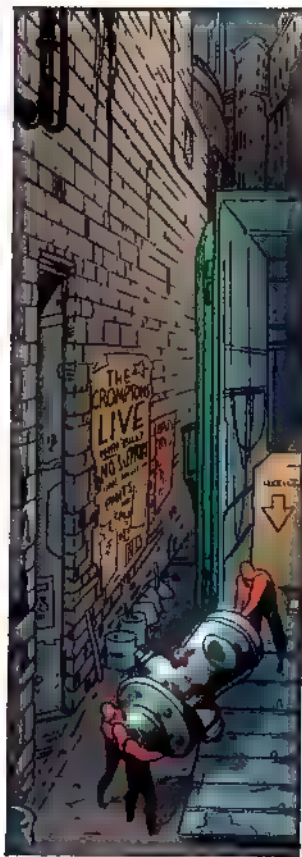
OWNER RENTS IT OUT TO CHURCH REVIVALS. ANYWAY, THAT'S WHERE THE RIDDLE FACTORY IS TOMOR--

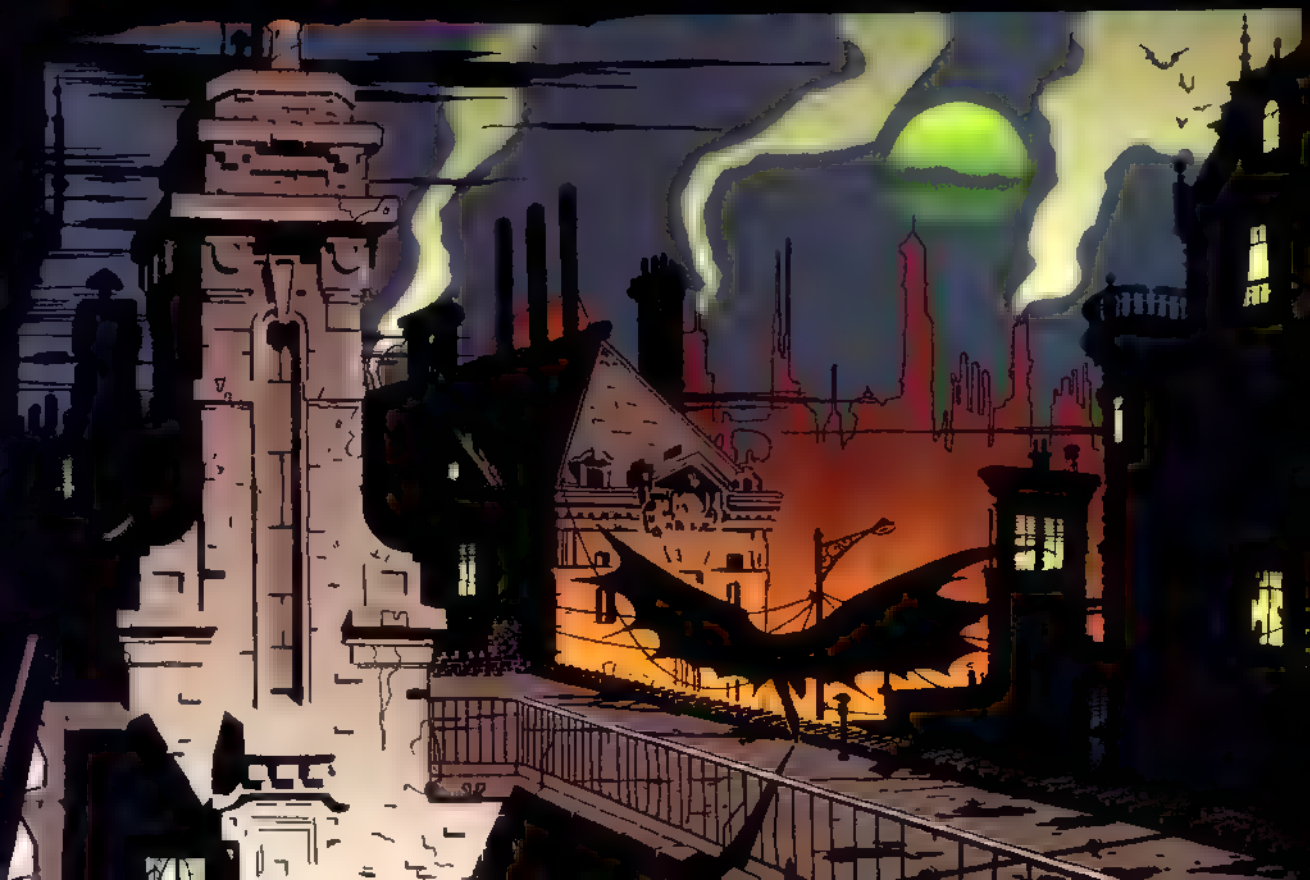
YE OUCH! HEY, MAN, EASY THERE--

DON'T ATTEND TOMORROW'S BROADCAST, FRIEND

I GUARANTEE YOU WON'T LIKE THE FLOOR SHOW







WHEN HE'S
ALL THIS
UNDO TO

LADIES, GENTLEMEN, AND ALL
OTHERS... IF YOU WOULD KINDLY
TAKE YOUR SEATS, THE SHOW
IS ABOUT TO BEGIN.

HOO-HOO! HEE-
HEE-HOOOOO!

HAS IT BEEN
SO LONG? WHERE
DOES A WEEK
GO? HOW HAVE
YOU BEEN? DO I
REALLY CARE?

HELL, NO!
HEE-HEE-HEE-
HOOO! BUT I
DO KNOW THAT IT
CERTAINLY IS
THAT TIME
AGAIN!

HERE
IT
COMES...

YES! THE
HOUR OF UNCERTAINTY!
WELCOME, LADIES
AND GENTLEMEN,
TO...

...THE RIDDLE
FACTORY!

YES, WELCOME,
FRIENDS AND FANS, TO
THE SHOW! WITH YOUR
MASTER OF CEREMONIES,
THAT MAGICIAN OF
MYSTERY AND WIT...

"...THE RIDDLER!"

WELL,
NOW, THIS
CERTAINLY
IS A LIVELY
CROWD!

LET'S
JUST
SEE WHAT
WE CAN
DO ABOUT
THAT!



WHEN DOES
A VILLAINOUS
GRAPE SEE THE
LIGHT?

WHEN
IT'S...IT'S...
OH...
GODDD...
I--I DON'T
KNOW!



WHEN
IT'S A
RAY SIN!

YES, YES, WE
HEARD YOU THE
FRST TIME! SOME-
ONE GET HIM OUT
OF HERE!

I LOVE
YOU, SASHA!
AND "HI" TO ALL
THE BOYS AT
ZESTY'S!



WHAT
SENSE OF
HUMOR DID
LAZARUS
HAVE?

UM... OH,
MAN... I DON'T--
OH GOD, NOT MY
HAIR! WAIT!! I
CAN'T THINK...
PLEASE...

ANSWER!!



ALRIGHT!!
THE RACCOON
FINALLY
GETS ONE!



YAGHH!
YOU BASTARDS!
YOU'LL NEV--
YEAAGHH!
I'LL GET YOU ALL--
AGGGHHH!

WHAK! WHAK!



THIS IS
ABSOLUTELY
LUDICROUS.

GORDON
HERE.

COMMISSIONER,
THIS IS HARRIS. WE
GOT A TIP ON THE
RIDDLER'S BROADCAST
LOCALE

WHAT'S THE
SOURCE?

A DISGRUNTLED
GUEST. SAYS IT'S AT
AN OLD THEATER
UPTOWN. WE'VE
GOT A CAR ON ITS
WAY TO PICK YOU
UP.

I'LL BE
READY.

WHAT HAIR-
STYLE DO
GIRLIE SNAKES
HAVE?

W-WH... WHEN
T...ER... THEY'RE
WIM, LITTLE
COILS?

YES!
OH, YES!
THAT'S OUR
LAST CUE,
AND SO..

.. IN ANSWER
TO OUR RIDDLE
CONCERNING
CELEBRATED
ARTIST, JEFF
BROOM.

WHEN IS
AN ARTIST
LIKE A SEX
OFFENDER?

WHEN
HE'S... RAISIN
... ALL THIS...
DOUGH, BUT...
USED TO...
RAISE 'ER W T...
LITTLE COILS!

HOO!
HOO-HOO-
HOO HEE!

SEEMS OUR
LITTLE JEFFY NEVER
TOLD THE PRESS ABOUT
HIS CONVICTION ON
CHILD PORNOGRAPHY
CHARGES YEARS AGO!
'COURSE THEN, HE
WAS KNOWN AS
JENNY SCHENK

AS JEFF
BROOM, HE'S
MADE A BUNDLE
BY POKING FUN AT
THE CONSUMPTIVE
CORPSE OF OUR
MASS-PRODUCED
SOCIETY

BT2 2452W



HEE! HEE-HEE--
;ahem; BUT I'M
AFRAID THAT'S ALL
WE HAVE T ME FOR
TONIGHT, FOLKS!



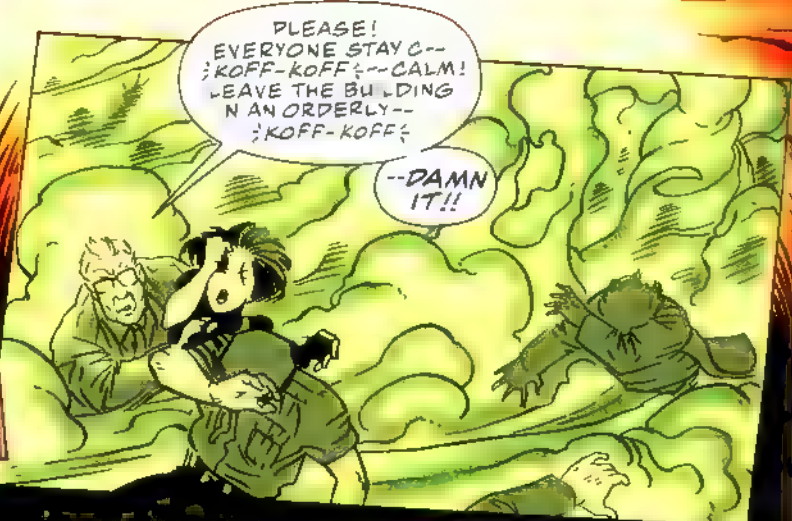
SHOW'S OVER,
RIDDLE! EVERY-
ONE, PLEASE REMAIN
SEATED.



AND SO, UNTIL NEXT
TIME, LADIES AND GENTLE-
MEN, WE HERE AT THE
RIDDLE FACTORY B.I.D YOU.



...ADIEU!



PLEASE!
EVERYONE STAY C--
;KOFF-KOFF;--CALM!
LEAVE THE BUILDING
IN AN ORDERLY--
;KOFF-KOFF;

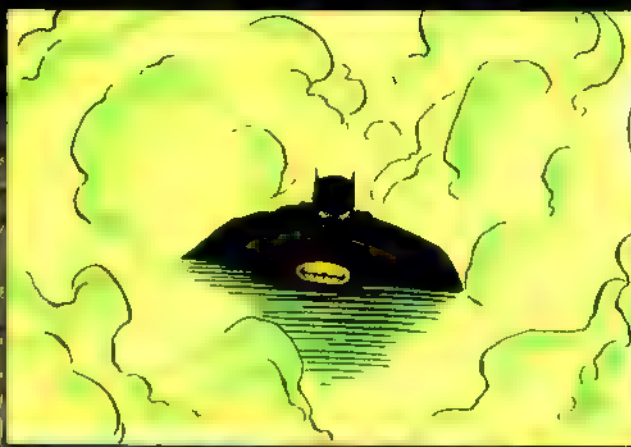
--DAMN
IT!!



HURRY, MY DEAR! I HAVE AN EXHILARATING SUSPICION..



...THAT THE POLICE ARE MOST CERTAINLY NOT ALONE!

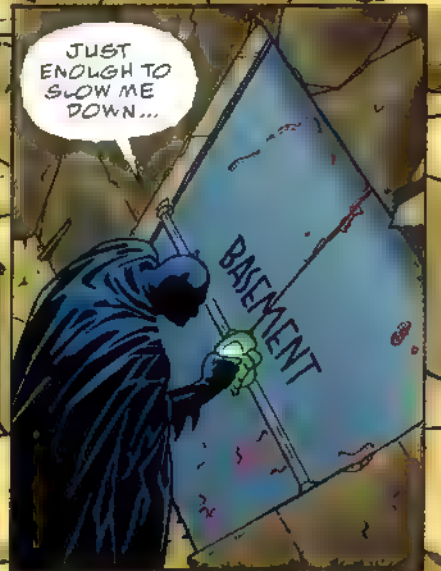
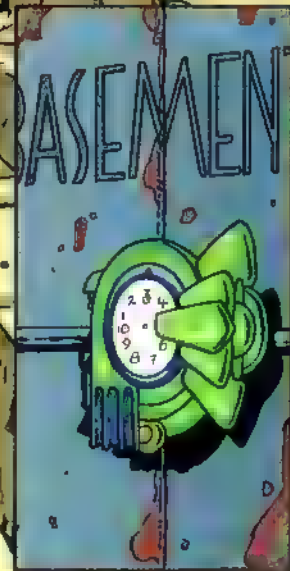


HOO! HOO! HOO-HEE-HEE! A WORD OF ADVICE, BAT-BRAIN...



DON'T HANDLE THE ROQUEFORT!

KLATAT!



JUST ENOUGH TO SLOW ME DOWN...



DOWN HERE,
COMMISSIONER

OH--IT'S YOU.
WHAT DID THEY...
WHAT THE HELL IS
THAT STENCH?!

GOOD LORD!
THEY TUNNELED
OUT OF HERE?!
FIGURES... LIKE
A PACK OF RATS

THEY BROKE
INTO AN OLD
SEWER MAIN. THE
RIDDLER MUST'VE
KNOWN IT WAS
HERE.

THERE'S A MAN-
HOLE A HUNDRED
YARDS DOWN. THEY
HAD A VEHICLE
WAITING.

WITHOUT
ALL THE
EXCITEMENT,
I COULD HAVE
JUST FOLLOWED
HIM HOME.

LOOK, WE HAD
A T.P. AND I HAD
TO MOVE ON IT. YOU
SHOULD HAVE SEEN
THE STUFF HE WAS
DOING...

I SAW.
NO ONE WAS
SERIOUSLY
HURT.

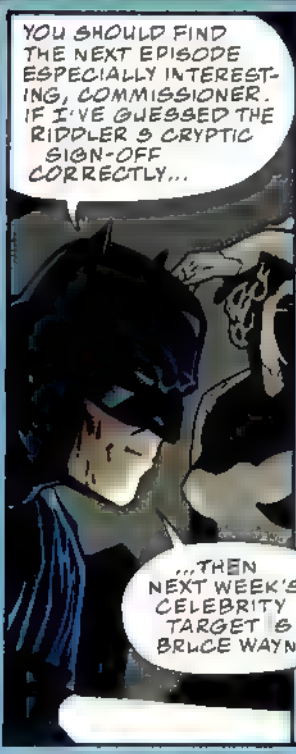
OH? AND
WHAT ABOUT
THAT BIT WITH
THE RACCOON...?

A HOAX. I SAW
ONE OF THE RIDDLER'S
WOMEN PLAYING WITH
IT BEFORE THE SHOW.
THE GUEST RECEIVED
SOME SCRATCHES,
NOTHING MORE.

IT'S A B.L.N.D.
HE'S BRAZENLY
COMMITTING PETTY
CRIMES, DARING US
TO STOP HIM BEFORE
THE FINALE.



WELL THEN, BY GOD, I WILL!



YOU SHOULD FIND THE NEXT EPISODE ESPECIALLY INTERESTING, COMMISSIONER. IF I'VE GUESSED THE RIDDLER'S CRYPTIC SIGN-OFF CORRECTLY...

...THEN NEXT WEEK'S CELEBRITY TARGET IS BRUCE WAYNE



A FRIEND OF YOURS, I HEAR.



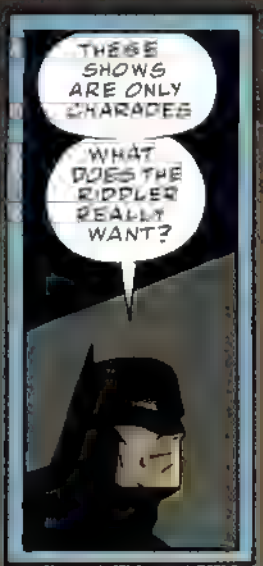
YES, I KNOW WAYNE

TAKE A LOOK AT THIS, COMMISSIONER.



MORE FRESH DIGGINGS. BOTH ABANDONED. I WONDER IF SIMILAR EXCAVATIONS WERE OVERLOOKED AT THE OTHER LOCATIONS

IF THE TUNNEL WAS THEIR ESCAPE ROUTE, WHAT WERE THEY LOOKING FOR HERE?



THESE SHOWS ARE ONLY CHARADES

WHAT DOES THE RIDDLER REALLY WANT?

FAME,
LADIES AND
GENTLEMEN.

AFFLUENCE, GRACE, AND
PANACHE ALL COMBINE TO
PRESENT THE VERY ESSENCE
OF FAME IN THIS LATEST
OFFERING BY DESIGNER,
SERGE GORODISH

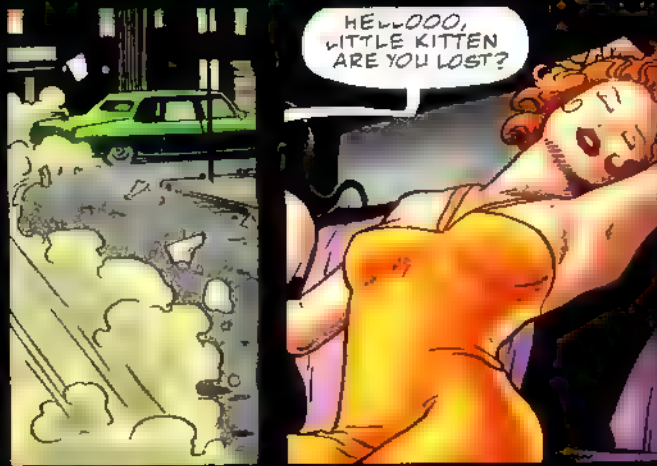
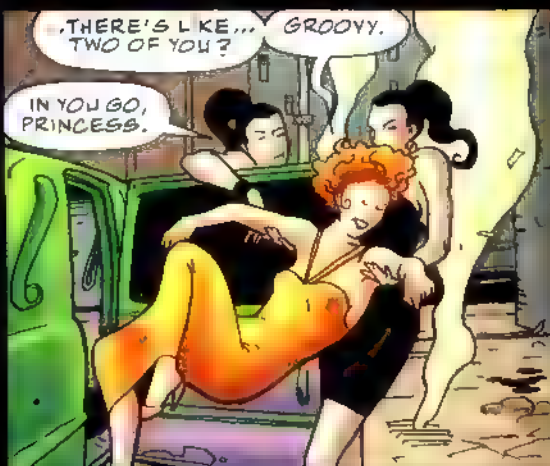
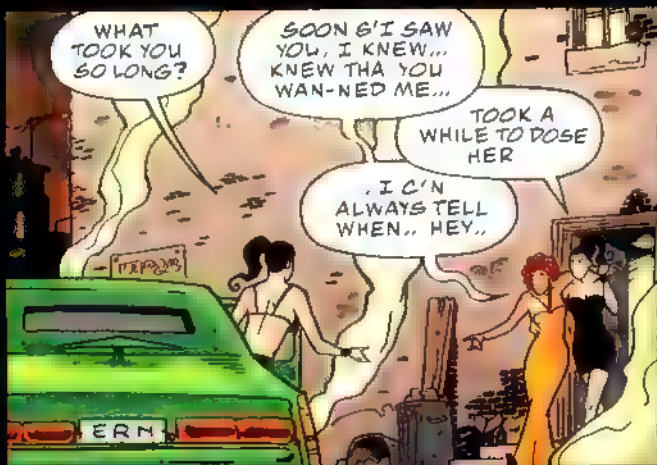
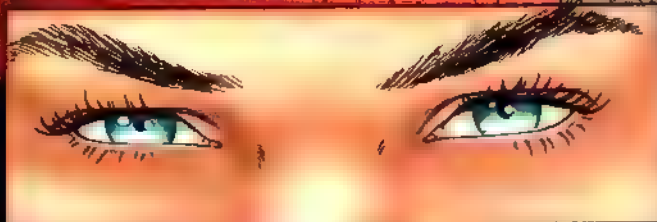
AND HERE WE SEE
KITTY REEVES IN AN
OUTFIT SURE TO MAKE
ANY HEAD TURN

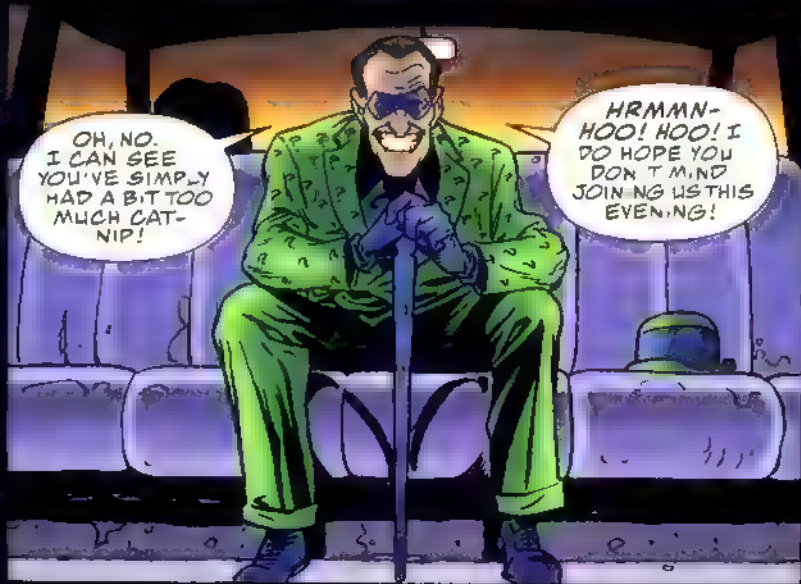
AND KITTY SHOULD
KNOW, HAVING RECENTLY
TURNED THE HEAD OF
NONE OTHER THAN
GOTHAM'S FAMOUS
BACHELOR, BRUCE
WAYNE!

TELL US, KITTY,
IS HE REALLY
JUST A LOSER
UNDERNEATH
ALL THAT
MONEY, CHARM
AND GOOD
LOOKS?

WHAT'S THE
MATTER, KITTY..

..CAT GOT
YOUR TONGUE?



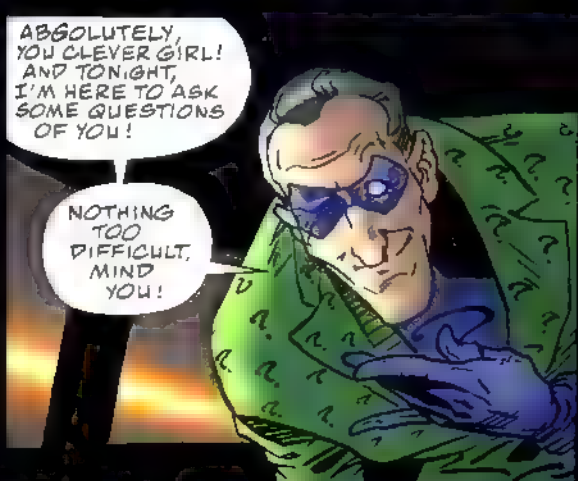


OH, NO. I CAN SEE YOU'VE SIMPLY HAD A BIT TOO MUCH CAT-NIP!

HRMMN-HOO! HOO! I DO HOPE YOU DON'T MIND JOINING US THIS EVENING!



WHAT'S GOING ON? I THOUGHT... SHE... YOU--HEY! YOU'RE THAT GUY--GUY FROM THE TV SHOW!



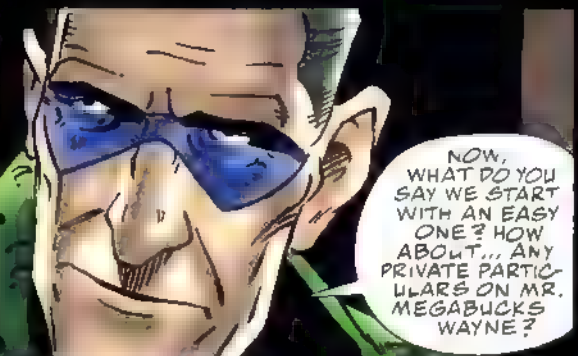
ABSOLUTELY, YOU CLEVER GIRL! AND TONIGHT, I'M HERE TO ASK SOME QUESTIONS OF YOU!

NOTHING TOO DIFFICULT, MIND YOU!

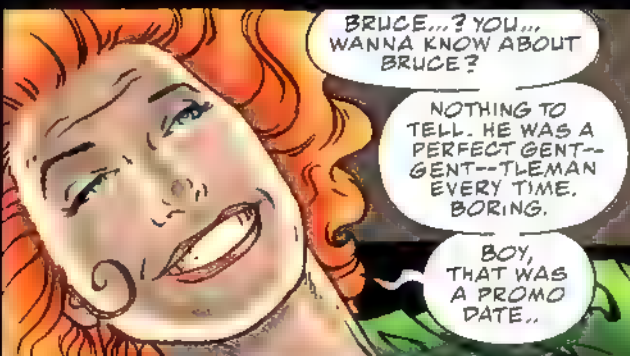


JUST A BIT OF INFO ON ONE OF YOUR LATEST MEN FRIENDS. YOU KNOW: GOSSIP, GIRL-TALK, THE LOW-DOWN DIRTY GOODS!

uh-huh...



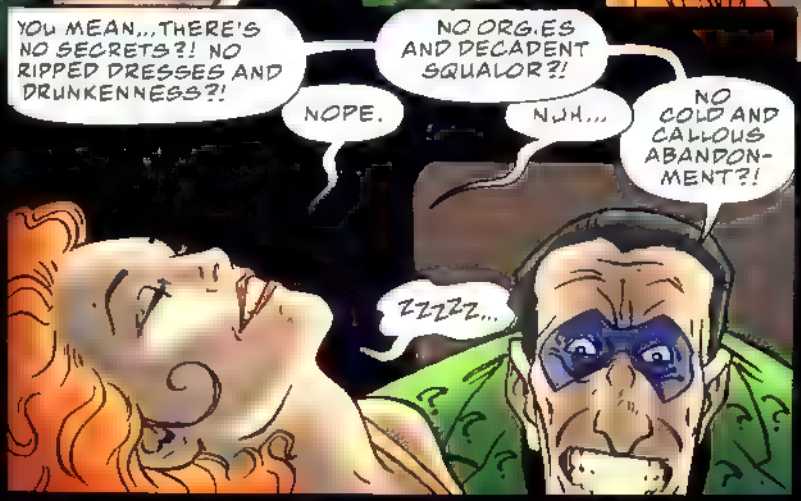
NOW, WHAT DO YOU SAY WE START WITH AN EASY ONE? HOW ABOUT... ANY PRIVATE PARTICULARS ON MR. MEGABUCKS WAYNE?



BRUCE...? YOU... WANNA KNOW ABOUT BRUCE?

NOTHING TO TELL. HE WAS A PERFECT GENT--GENT--TLEMAN EVERY TIME. BORING.

BOY, THAT WAS A PROMO DATE..



YOU MEAN...THERE'S NO SECRETS?! NO RIPPED DRESSES AND DRUNKENNESS?!

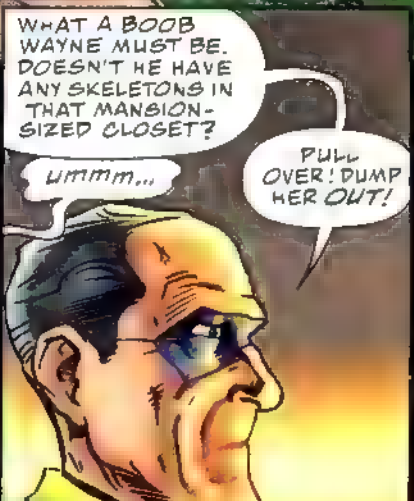
NO ORGIES AND DECADENT SQUALOR?!

NOPE.

NH...

NO COLD AND CALLOUS ABANDONMENT?!

zzzz...



WHAT A BOOB WAYNE MUST BE. DOESN'T HE HAVE ANY SKELETONS IN THAT MANSION-SIZED CLOSET?

Ummm...

PULL OVER! DUMP HER OUT!

THIS IS
TERRY WILKES ON
THE SCENE OF A
STAND-OFF BETWEEN
GOTHAM POLICE AND
MODERN ARTIST
JEFF BROOMS

MR. BROOMS,
THERE'S NOTHING
I CAN DO IF YOU
INSIST UPON--

REPORTEDLY,
BROOMS
ENTERED THE
GOTHAM FLATIRON
BUILDING ABOUT
AN HOUR AGO...

BRADDA-D-
BRADDA-D-
BRADDA!

...AND
PROCEEDED TO
RANDOMLY RAIN
SNIPER-FIRE
ONTO THE STREET
BELOW THERE
HAVE, SO FAR, BEEN
FOUR CASUALTIES
AND TWO
FATALITIES.

AT THIS
POINT, WE CAN
ONLY SPECULATE
AS TO THE
MOTIVATIONS
BEHIND THIS
OUTBURST

BROOMS, OF
COURSE, HAS
BEEN NEWSWORTHY
OF LATE DUE TO
ALLEGATIONS
RECENTLY MADE ON
THE OUTLAW GAME
SHOW, "RIDDLE
ME THIS."

OUR
MARKSMAN
SAYS HE'S GOT
A BEAD.

BRADDA-D-
BRADDA-D-
BRADDA!

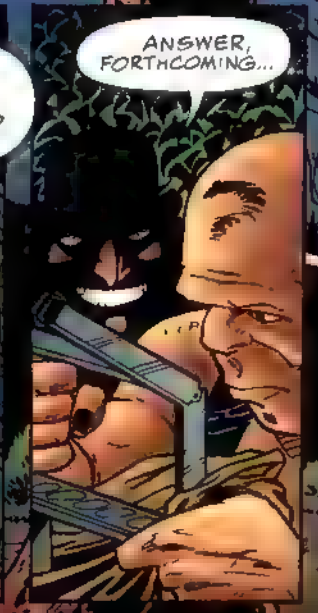
AGHH!
HE'S NOT
LEAVING ME
ANY CHOICE!

DO IT!

FIRE!

THE SAD
PART IS, THE
RIDDLER DOESN'T
EVEN CARE WHAT
DAMAGE HE
CAUSES.

HE ONLY
WANTS TO
WIN.



THE
RIDDLER'S CLUE
TO ME-- DON'T
HANDLE THE ROQUEFORT
-- SUGGESTS A
BLUEPRINT.

I HAD
ALREADY
WONDERED
ABOUT THE
CHOICE OF
LOCATIONS FOR
HIS LITTLE
SCENARIOS.

LET'S SEE
IF THERE'S
ANY LINK

Hmmm...

ACCORDING TO
THESE TAX
RECORDS, THE WARE-
HOUSES WERE BOTH
OWNED BY THE
"CONTINENTAL TRANS-
PORT COMPANY" BACK
IN THE 1920S

CONTINENTAL
TRANSPORT
WAS A
PROHIBITION
FRONT FOR THE
MOB.

LET'S
CHECK THE
THEATER...

NO... IT WAS OWNED
BY A SINGLE
PROPRIETOR,
SHELDON LINDSKY,
FOR NEARLY
THIRTY YEARS.

LINDSKY...
LINDSKY...
WASN'T LINDSKY
THE MAIDEN
NAME OF SCAR-
FACE SCARELLI'S
WIFE?

YES! SCARELLI
WAS MARRIED TO A
MARY LINDSKY. SHELDON
LINDSKY WAS HIS
BROTHER-IN-LAW.

SCARFACE
SCARELLI...
EVEN THOUGH
HE FINALLY
WENT TO
PRISON FOR
TAX EVASION,
LEGEND HAS
IT HE CON-
VERTED ALL
HIS HOLDINGS
INTO CASH AT
THE LAST
MINUTE.

THEN HE
BURIED THEM
AWAY IN A
SECRET VAULT.
YEARS LATER,
WHEN HE GOT OUT
OF JAIL, HIS MIND
WAS SO DECAYED
THAT HE FORGOT
WHERE HE HAD
SUNKEN HIS DIRTY
TREASURE.

SEEMS THE
RIDDLER HAS
DECIDED TO LOOK
FOR IT. HE MUST
HAVE DISCOVERED
SOME MAP... OR
BLUEPRINT

I WONDER
WHAT HE
THINKS HE'S
GOT ON BRUCE
WAYNE.

IF I'M
RIGHT, THE
RIDDLER HAS
ONE PLACE
LEFT TO
SEARCH.

BATMAN
WILL BE
THERE--AND
SO WILL
BRUCE
WAYNE.



NOTHING!

NOT A THING! SEARCH AND DIG AND WHEELDE BUT WE STILL HAVE NOTHING ON THE BIG JERK!

WE COULD GO WITH SOMEONE ELSE...

NO, I ALREADY ANNOUNCED IT. BESIDES, NOW IT'S PERSONAL. I DON'T LIKE FELLOWS THIS CLEAN.



PERFECT! I KNEW OLD HARV WOULD PRODUCE; ALWAYS WAS A CHARMING WARD-MATE... EXCEPT ON HIS UGLY DAYS.



I'LL SPILL SOME SORT OF GOODS ABOUT WAYNE EVEN IF I HAVE TO MAKE THEM UP!

BESIDES, AFTER THIS SHOW, IT WON'T REALLY MATTER...



DELIVERY'S ~~THE~~ RIDDLER YOUR SOURCE CAME THROUGH AGAIN.

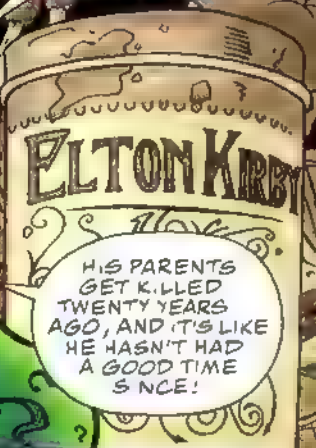
AHH...



STORE THEM WITH THE EXPLOSIVES! THIS WEEK'S BOUND TO BE OUR LAST SHOW, AND IT'S GOING TO BE OUR BIGGEST ONE YET!

THIS WEEK-- THE RIDDLE FACTORY'S GOING OUT WITH A BANG!!

RUMORS GALORE; BUT NOT A GRAIN OF REAL DIRT! DOESN'T THIS GUY HAVE A LIFE?!



HIS PARENTS GET KILLED TWENTY YEARS AGO, AND IT'S LIKE HE HASN'T HAD A GOOD TIME SINCE!



STEFAN!
WE NEED
ANOTHER
MONTANT '56
AT TABLE
30!

YES!
YES!



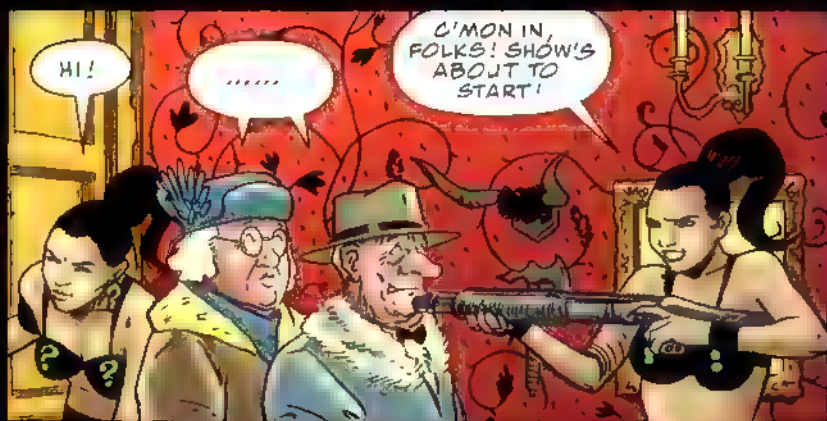
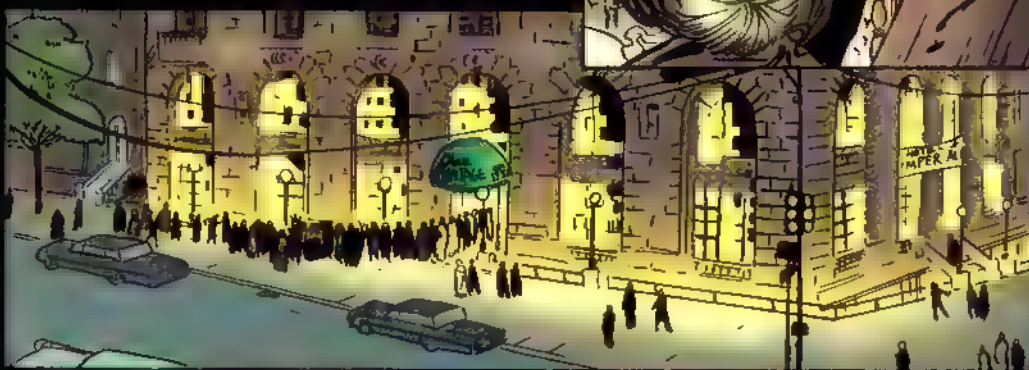
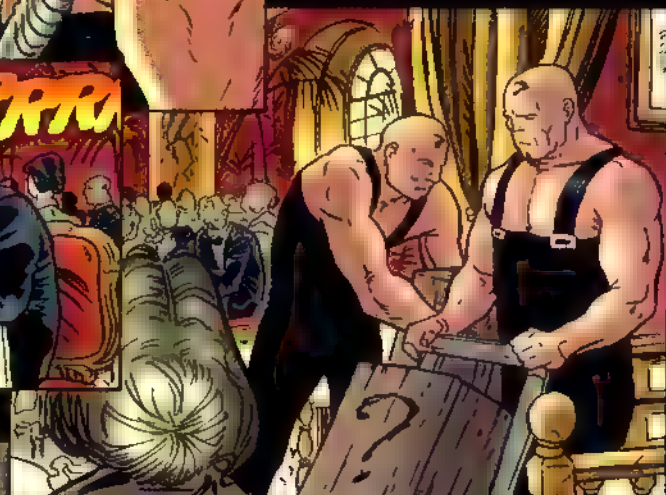
RRRRRRRR

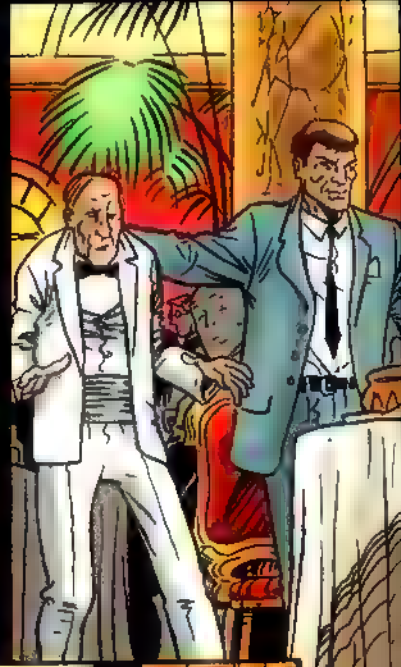
AND YOU KNOW
WHAT WE GOT THE
OTHER DAY? AN
ORIGINAL BROOM!
IT WAS THE LAST
ONE AT THE
SHOW!

OH!! FEEL
THAT?

NOT A
SUBWAY, SOUNDS
LIKE IT'S INSIDE
THE BUILDING



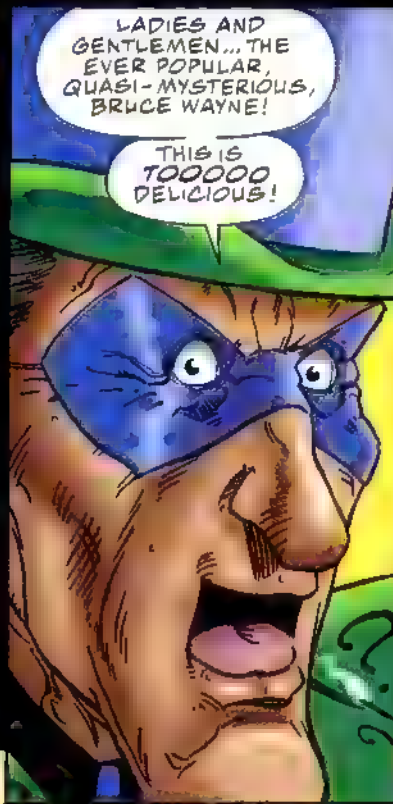






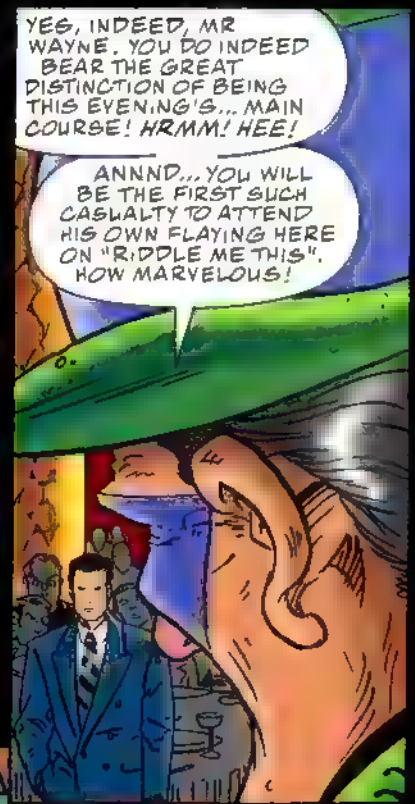
I HAD HEARD YOU PLANNED TO SKEWER MY REPUTATION THIS EVENING, RIDDLER.

MY, MY, MY... SOMEONE IS PAYING ATTENTION!



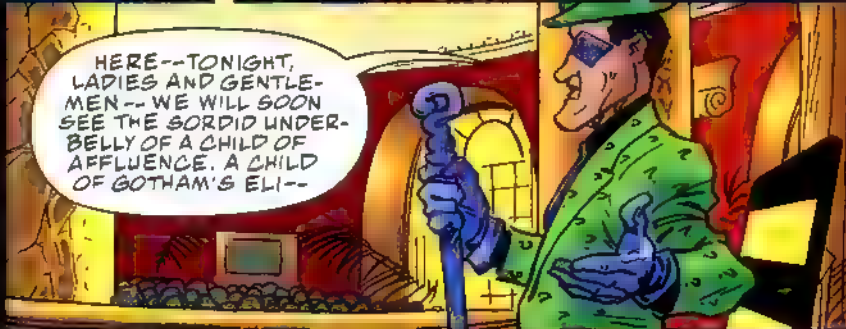
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN... THE EVER POPULAR, QUASI-MYSTERIOUS, BRUCE WAYNE!

THIS IS TOOOOO DELICIOUS!



YES, INDEED, MR WAYNE. YOU DO INDEED BEAR THE GREAT DISTINCTION OF BEING THIS EVENING'S... MAIN COURSE! HRMM! HEE!

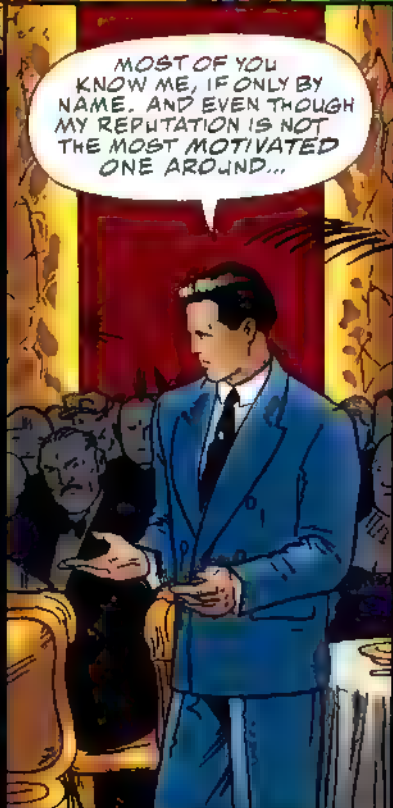
ANNND... YOU WILL BE THE FIRST SUCH CASUALTY TO ATTEND HIS OWN FLAYING HERE ON "RIDDLE ME THIS". HOW MARVELOUS!



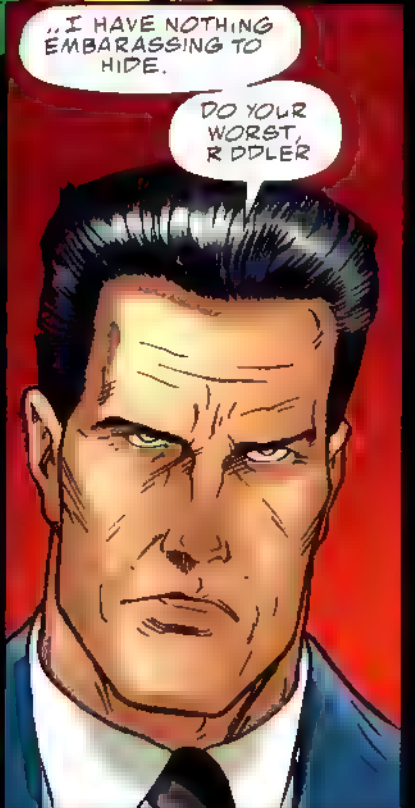
HERE--TONIGHT, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN-- WE WILL SOON SEE THE SORDID UNDERBELLY OF A CHILD OF AFFLUENCE. A CHILD OF GOTHAM'S ELI--



IF YOU HAVE ANY ACCUSATIONS TO LEVEL, LET'S HEAR THEM-- AND DISPENSE WITH THESE PETTY GAMES!



MOST OF YOU KNOW ME, IF ONLY BY NAME. AND EVEN THOUGH MY REPUTATION IS NOT THE MOST MOTIVATED ONE AROUND...



"I HAVE NOTHING EMBARRASSING TO HIDE.

DO YOUR WORST, R DDLER



UH... AS
I SAID,
LADIES AND
GENTLEMEN
...THAT IS,
RIDDLE ME
THIS...



YOUR
GOSSIP,
R D D L E R ! W H A T
I S I T ? S O M E
B I T T E R D A T E
W H O ' S U P S E T
B E C A U S E I
W O U L D N ' T
M A R R Y
H E R ?

A
C O R P O R A T E
D E A L G O N E
S O U R ?

W H A T ? !



Y O U A L L
K N O W W A Y N E I S
F I L T H Y R I C H !
O N E O F T H E
W E A L T H I E S T I N
G O T H A M !

S C A N D A L O U S



M O N E Y M A D E
O N T H E B A C K S O F
T H E W O R K I N G
C L A S S E S . . . !

E V E R Y Y E A R ,
T H E W A Y N E
F O U N D A T I O N
D O N A T E S
M I L L I O N S
T O C H A R I T A B L E
C A U S E S .

H E -- H E L I V E S I N A
H U G E M A N S I O N --

A N D ?

-- H E -- H E -- H E
W A S T H E O N L Y
O N E P R E S E N T W H E N
H I S P A R E N T S W E R E
M U R D E R E D !



A W E L L -
D O C U M E N T E D
T R A G E D Y .



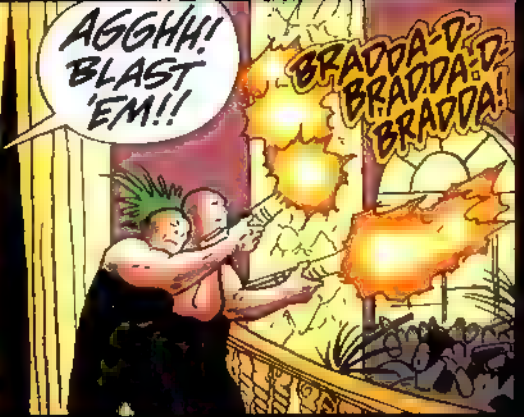
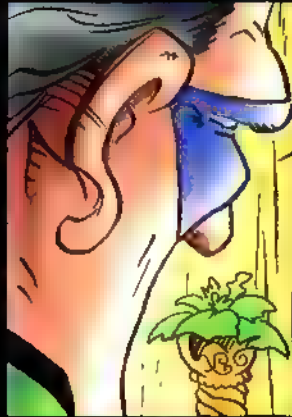
W H I C H P R O V E S --

-- W H I C H P R O V E S --

-- W H I C H P - P - P --

... P R O V E S
H E
D I D N ' T
L O V E H I S
M O M M Y ! !





QUICKLY! SEAL
THAT DOOR BEHIND
US AND MEET US
IN THE LOWER
BASEMENT!



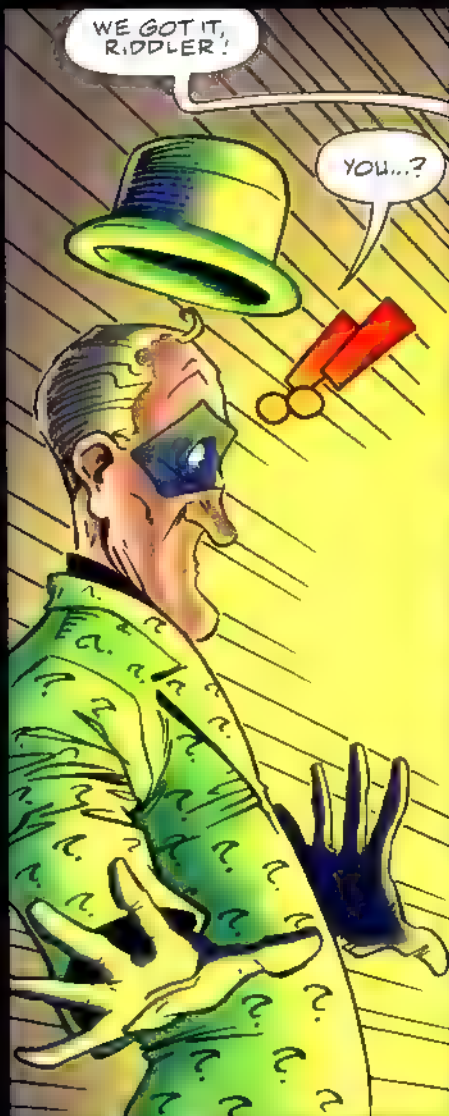
HURRY! WE HAD A
SLIGHTLY TRUNCATED
PERFORMANCE
TONIGHT!

YOU BOOBS
BETTER HAVE THAT
ESCAPE TUNNEL
REA--



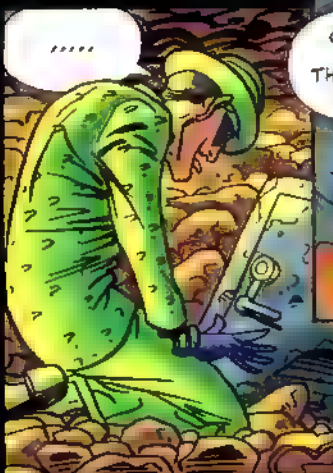
WE GOT IT,
RIDDLER!

YOU...?



CHILD'S
PLAY...
THESE OLD
ONES...

OH HH...



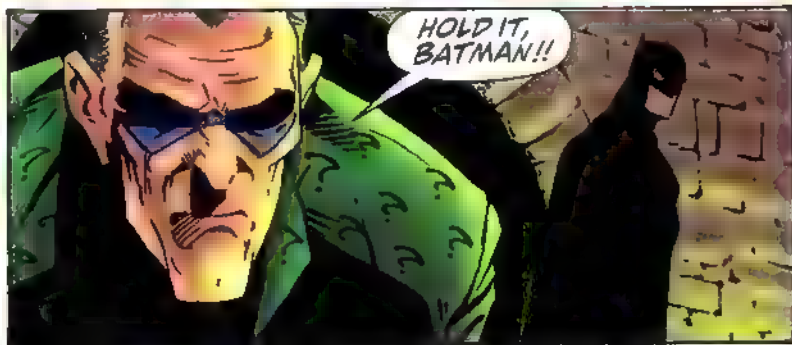
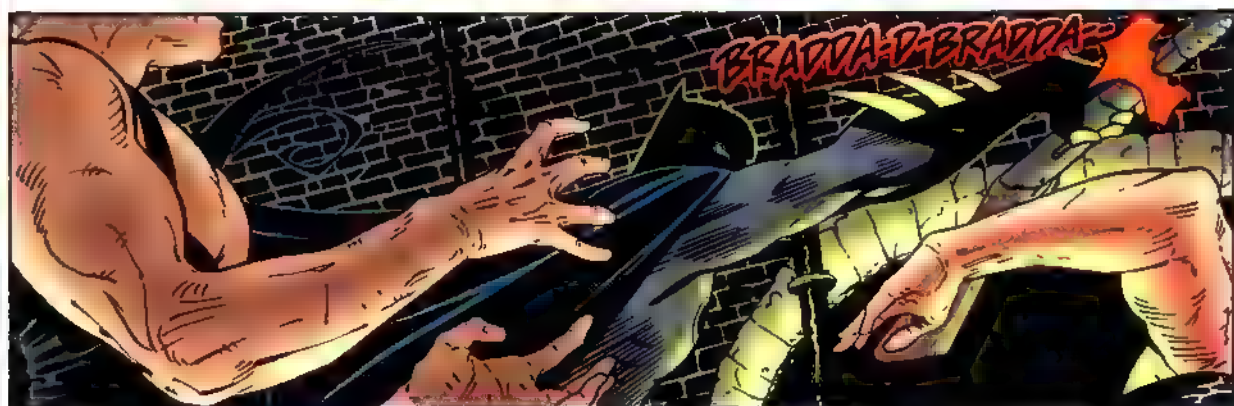
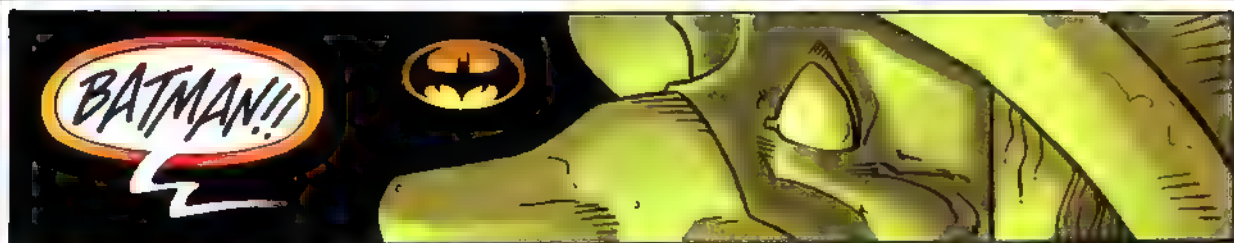
I...I...DID IT...
I WON! PEOPLE
HAVE BEEN
SEARCHING FOR THIS
TREASURE FOR
DECADES...

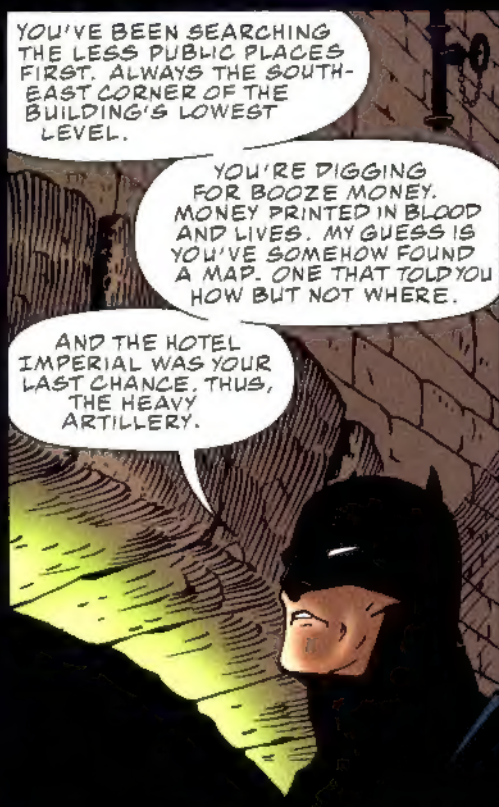
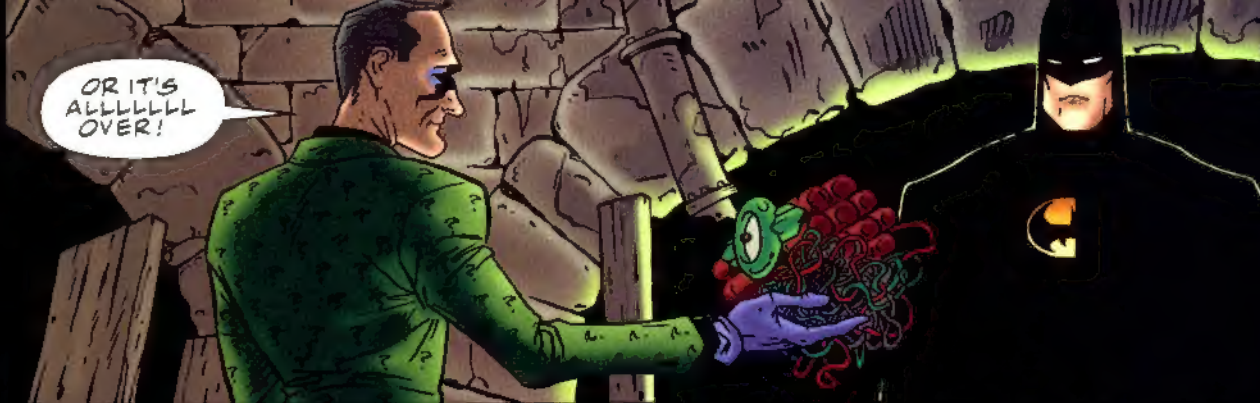
...AND ONLY
I FOUND
IT!

HOW
PRETTY... EVER
SINCE... I WAS
A CHILD... I'VE
LIKED... PRETTY
THINGS...

I EVEN...
DARE I SAY
IT... I EVEN
OUTWITTED
B-B-B...













THE RIDDLER

WOULD LIKE TO...

Amuse YOU,
Entertain YOU,

AND LET YOU

WATCH THE

BATMAN

Die.

DIRECT SALES



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